



A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Curren D. Price, Jr., 26th Senatorial District; and the Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, 47th Assembly District;
Relative to Memorializing

Sandra Varga

WHEREAS, The passing of Sandra Varga has been met with great sadness tempered by profound gratitude for a life well-lived, a life exemplified by her compassion, loyalty, and commitment to her family, her community, and her friends, which caused those who knew her to be better for the experience and the people of California to be served wisely and selflessly; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 7, 1949, and raised in New York City, Sandy Varga began her advocacy effort in the Summer of 1961, when she was chosen by a visionary New York City social worker to be trained as a community organizer to help establish ASPIRA, a Puerto Rican educational nonprofit organization devoted to the education and leadership development of Puerto Rican and other Latino youth; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Varga organized the first city-wide ASPIRA Club, Hijos de Borinquen, and was elected the first National Education Committee Chair as the organization expanded beyond the city; and

WHEREAS, A California resident since the early 1980s, Sandy Varga enjoyed a successful 30-year career in the entertainment and motion picture business; she began as a talent agent and used her business skills to segue into various production finance positions from Production Accountant to Studio Disbursing Agent of films such as *Reds*, *Back to School*, *The Cotton Club*, and *Mississippi Burning*; she also brought credit and distinction to herself as a film consultant in Argentina; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Varga survived the diagnosis of terminal cancer and brain surgery in 2002, only to be confined to a wheelchair in 2004 as a result of a medical accident which left her as a hemiplegic; and

WHEREAS, As a woman of profound faith, Sandy Varga found strength and determination in her disability and utilized her skills in facilitation, diplomacy, and civic engagement to advocate not only for the disabled, but also for seniors and those who could not speak for themselves; and

WHEREAS, Appointed to the Access Paratransit Board of Directors to represent the Southern California Independent Living Centers, Sandy Varga served as a volunteer facilitator to resolve the longstanding problem of late pick-up of United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) clients at St. Johns Medical Center buildings and her efforts were instrumental in facilitating an improvement of service to UCP Culver City Center; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Varga also was appointed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services to the County's Personal Assistance Services Council Board of Directors, the entity that is the employer of record for the County's In-Home Supportive Services workers, where she served on its Volunteer Corps and counseled English- and Spanish-speaking consumers on the appeal process and provided information and guidance of benefit to those individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, A leader in every sense of the word, Sandy Varga also shared her knowledge and wise counsel as Regional Vice President of the California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Limitless in her vision and boundless in her infinite capacity to excel, the memory of Sandy Varga stands as a beacon of hope for all people who believe strongly in their obligation to improve the quality of life for future generations, and she leaves to mourn her passing and celebrate her legacy her two children; her four grandchildren; and her numerous friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR CURREN D. PRICE, JR., AND ASSEMBLY MEMBER HOLLY J. MITCHELL, That they express their deepest sympathy at the passing of Sandra Varga and, by this resolution, memorialize her for her illustrious record of personal, professional, and civic achievements, as well as the love and devotion she gave to her family and friends.