

THE RESOLUTION N. S. 2744

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, WELCOMING THE CITY OF LORETO, BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, AS A SISTER CITY AFFILIATION WITH THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH.

WHEREAS, through the efforts of its Sister City Committee, the City of Hermosa Beach, California, has initiated a People-to-People Program with the City of Loreto, Baja California, Mexico, to develop international friendship and understanding between the people of our respective cities; and WHEREAS, the people of Loreto, Baja California, Mexico, who share similar surroundings and mutual interests with the City of Hermosa Beach, California, have expressed their interest in this program; and WHEREAS, members of the Sister City Committee and the City Council of Hermosa Beach have made an official visit to the City of Loreto, at which time a Sister City Committee made up of citizens of Loreto was established and dignitaries from both cities participated in a formal ceremony in the office of the Mayor of Loreto where all present agreed to enter into a mutual Sister City affiliation, NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That this Council on behalf of the people of the City of Hermosa Beach, California, hereby extends a welcome to the people of the City of Loreto, Baja California, Mexico, who are participating with Hermosa Beach in People-to-People Program of our neighboring countries.

SECTION 2. That an elected city official is to be appointed to act as official representative of the City of Hermosa Beach to help in carrying out this program.

SECTION 3: That copies of this Resolution are to be sent to Mayor Raul Aurelio Robinson Ojeda of the City of Loreto, to the Honorable Raul Sanchez Diaz, Governor of Baja California, and to the Director of Town Affiliations, National League of Cities, Washington, D.C.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 1967.

John P. deGroot
PRESIDENT of the City Council MAYOR, City of Hermosa Beach

Attest: City Clerk



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

House of Representatives

THE HERMOSA BEACH SISTER CITY PROGRAM: 40 YEARS OF GOODWILL AND ENDURING FRIENDSHIP

Madam Speaker, to many, Hermosa Beach is a beautiful coastal community blessed by perfect weather, endless sun and surf. But few would know that it is home to one of the oldest and strongest international exchange programs in the United States.

It all started in 1967, when the Hermosa Beach City Council established a "Sister City" program with the citizens of Loreto, Mexico. Back then, Loreto was a small community on the pristine Baja coast of the Sea of Cortez – famous for sport fishing, whales, cave paintings and colonial missions. Its Spanish mission, founded in 1697, was the first in all of the California's.

Over the past 40 years, the Hermosa Beach Sister City Association (HBSCA) has provided funding and other support for educational and humanitarian programs for Loreto. Among the most notable is the middle school student exchange program. Every spring, Hermosa Beach 7th and 8th grade students travel to Loreto – and vice versa – where they gain language skills, opportunities to learn about a different

culture from host families and field trips, and lifetime memories.

The HBSCA also assists the people of Loreto with critical medical care. As recently as 1998, Loreto had no emergency medical treatment facilities. Through a partnership between physicians in Loreto and Hermosa Beach, the HBSCA has been able to provide badly needed medical training and equipment, including paramedic gear and even an ambulance.

Since its inception, Sister City programs have benefited both cities and their citizens. Loreto has become a home away from home for Hermosans, who have in turn helped improve the quality of life for Loretans. One of our nation's oldest sister city programs shines as a stellar example of the impact global exchange can have on our world.

I congratulate the citizens of Hermosa Beach and Loreto on achieving this impressive milestone.