A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION RELATING TO SENATE BILL 594 (GLAZER)

WHEREAS, every ten years after the Federal census, district boundaries for federal, state, and local elected offices are redrawn as necessary to ensure substantially equal population representation. Existing state law (Elections Code 21550 et. seq.) and County charter establishes the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission ("IRC") is responsible for redrawing San Diego County's supervisorial maps. The IRC is comprised of 14 citizens from each of the County's five supervisorial districts, representative of the County's diversity; and

WHEREAS, the IRC operates independently of the County Board of Supervisors, and is committed to drawing Supervisorial district maps in a public and transparent process that will accurately and fairly represent the residents of San Diego County in accordance with applicable law, and to make it possible for as many broad and diverse voices as possible to participate in the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused unavoidable and unforeseen delays in the release and dissemination of decennial census data to all jurisdictions such that in April 2020 the United States Bureau of the Census announced that the release of redistricting census data, P.L. 94-171, would be delayed by four months to July 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Census Bureau's April 2020 announcement, the Legislature passed AB 1276 (Bonta), Chapter 90, Statutes of 2020, which adjusted city and county redistricting deadlines, including those applicable to the IRC, to provide more time for the redistricting process to account for redistricting data delay; and

WHEREAS, under AB 1276 the IRC was accorded over 100 days to hold a robust process of public hearings on draft redistricting maps; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2021, the Census Bureau announced a further delay and that it will deliver the Public Law 94-171 redistricting data to all states by Sept. 30, 2021, thus significantly curtailing the amount of time available for the IRC to draw draft maps and the time allowed for public comment; and

WHEREAS, the IRC desires to protect, to the extent possible opportunities for robust public participation by protecting the public comment timing requirements as required by law; and

WHEREAS, SB 594 is one technical clarification that takes a first step in protecting the redistricting process and the timeline for public input; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 594 (Glazer) as amended on March 4, 2021, provides the IRC some relief from the delays by clarifying that the IRC's deadline for adopting a final map is December 15, 2021 with the period for referendum commencing thereafter; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that given Senate Bill 594 (Glazer) is an urgency statute, requiring two-thirds vote of the state Legislature to pass, the IRC shall also act with urgency to support SB 594, as amended.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that by supporting Senate Bill 594 (Glazer), the IRC intends to work with the bill's author, all residents and communities of interest of San Diego County, and other jurisdictions impacted by these delays, to come up with a reasonable solution, and propose additional amendments, that will maximize the period of time that the public can have to participate in the development of the boundaries of the new supervisorial district maps before being adopted by the IRC.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the IRC with the assistance of Staff shall take all steps necessary to transmit this letter to Senator Glazer, author of SB 594, as soon as possible.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the IRC, this following vote:	day of	2021 by the
AYES:		
NOES:		
ABSENT:		
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY BY INDEPENDENT COUNSEL		
By:, Independent Counsel		