

**PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IMPERIA DECLARING THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 7-14, 2020 AS,  
“NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK”**

**WHEREAS**, marriage binds couples together in a network of affection, mutual aid and mutual obligation, commits fathers to their children, and connects children to a wider network of welcoming kin, Marriage thus is the outward, visible sign of a couple’s desire to create a lasting life and provide the bastion on-going of support necessary for the growth of healthy children and a healthy family; and

**WHEREAS**, mounting scientific evidence confirms that the best environment for children to flourish is in being raised by parents in healthy marriages, rather than unhealthy marriages or by single or cohabitating parents and these children demonstrate less behavioral problems in school, are less likely to be a victim of physical or sexual abuse, less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol, less likely to commit delinquent behaviors, have a better relationship with their mothers and fathers, are less likely to be sexually active and become pregnant as a teenager or impregnate someone, are less likely to contract STDs, have a decreased chance of divorcing when they get married, and are less likely to be raised in poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, Healthy Marriages protect adults as well as children, mothers as well as fathers and research indicates that women in healthy relationships experience more physical and emotional health, more wealth, are less likely to be victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or other violent crimes, less likely to attempt or commit suicide, have decreased risk of drugs or alcohol use and less likely to contract STDs, are less likely to remain or end up in poverty, and more likely to have better relationships with their children; and

**WHEREAS**, Research also indicates that men in healthy marriages experience are more likely to live longer, be physically and emotionally healthier, wealthier, have increased stability of employment, higher wages, decreased risk of drug and alcohol abuse, have better relationships with their children, more satisfying relationship with their spouse, are less likely to attempt or commit suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the importance of lasting, healthy marriage to be the well-being of children therefore, to the future of our community, we recognize that our community benefits from having a high percentage of couples in healthy relationships. We note the following: Higher rates of physically healthy citizens, higher rates of emotionally healthy citizens, higher rates of educated citizens, lower domestic violence rates, lower crime statistics, lower teenage pregnancy rates, lower rates of juvenile delinquency, higher rates of home ownership, higher property values, and overall decreased need of social services. Recent advances in research have helped us identify the behaviors and skills necessary for a healthy relationship. Furthermore, we now have proven methods for teaching these skills and behaviors; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Imperial, in consideration of all these important values for our community, we do hereby proclaim February 7 through February 14, 2020 as,

**“NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK IN IMPERIAL”**

PRESENTED by the Mayor of the City of Imperial during a regular meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.

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Darrell Pechtl, Mayor