Chin of Redondo Beach
State of California

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Redondo Beach Rotary Club World Polio Day is a positive initiative to create awareness and educate the citizens of Redondo Beach about the vital importance to eradicate Polio worldwide. Rotary brings 105 years of history to this initiative. Its members are business, professional and community leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Redondo Beach Rotary Club, is one of 32,000 Rotary Clubs located in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, that initiate service projects to address today’s challenges, including illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty, lack of clean water, and environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, When Rotary began its mission to eradicate polio more than 100,000 children were struck with polio every year, and nearly 3,000 people were affected by the crippling disease every day. Since then, polio cases have been reduced by 99.9% to fewer than 1,700 cases in 2009. Today only four countries – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan – remain polio-endemic. Due to the efforts of Rotary and its partners, the world is on the threshold of ending polio forever – making it only the second disease after smallpox to be eradicated; and

WHEREAS, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded $10.5 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, $600 million to a challenge grant from Rotary. And one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest received by Rotary in its 105 year history. These funds will provide critical support to polio eradication efforts that is spearheaded by WHO and its partners, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF. Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to WHO and UNICEF; and

WHEREAS, Polio eradication has been Rotary’s top priority since 1985, with more than $12.2 billion contributed to the effort. At the Rotary District Conference in San Diego, California in February 2009, Bill Gates praised Rotary for providing the volunteers, advocates, and donors who have helped bring about a 90 percent decline in the number of polio cases. “The world would not be where it is without Rotary, and it won’t get where it needs to go without Rotary,” Gates said. Rotary is nearing the three-quarter mark – having raised $441 million of the $580 million challenge; and

WHEREAS, Redondo Beach Rotary Club initiative is one more community effort to educate the citizens of Redondo Beach to support Rotary’s goal. The world stands firmly on the threshold of victory thanks to the achievements of the last 25 years. A polio-free world will be Rotary’s ultimate gift to children everywhere. World Polio Day, October 30th is one small step in helping Rotary achieve its goal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL A. GIN, Mayor of Redondo Beach, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim October 30th, 2010 as WORLD POLIO DAY.

Members of the City Council
Steve Aspel  ●  Bill Brand  ●  Pat Avnet  ●  Steven Diels  ●  Matt Kilroy
District 1  ●  District 2  ●  District 3  ●  District 4  ●  District 5

Written under my hand and seal this 19th day of October 2010

MICHAEL A. GIN, Mayor