

1 [Lyme Disease Awareness Month - May 2012]

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3 **Resolution proclaiming May 2012 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a serious bacterial infection that is commonly transmitted by
7 infected ticks and is spreading everywhere in the world, including nationally, statewide and
8 locally; and

9 WHEREAS, There is an average of 39,000 new cases of Lyme disease reported in the
10 United States every year; and

11 WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that the reported
12 cases of Lyme disease are only 10 percent of the actual cases that meet surveillance criteria;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The tick that spreads Lyme disease has been found in 56 out of
15 California's 57 Counties; and

16 WHEREAS, Many residents are unaware they have contracted Lyme disease due to
17 the ambiguous nature of the symptoms of the disease; and

18 WHEREAS, If untreated or misdiagnosed, Lyme disease can cause long-term health
19 problems, including neurological disorders, memory loss, muscle and joint pain, fatigue,
20 psychological disorders and, in some rare cases, even death; and

21 WHEREAS, If treated immediately or appropriately, Lyme disease can usually be
22 cured; and

23 WHEREAS, In the State of California, ticks are present throughout the year and we
24 must take precautions to protect humans and animals from tick bites all year long; and

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1 WHEREAS, Education and general public awareness of the symptoms, prevention and
2 treatment of Lyme disease are an essential component of those precautions; and

3 WHEREAS, Immediately following the presentation of last year's public awareness
4 resolution, at least one San Francisco resident recognized his own symptoms and received
5 confirmation of and treatment for his Lyme disease as a result of witnessing public comment;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The month of May is recognized nationally and by the State of California
8 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
10 does hereby proclaim May 2012 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

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