File No. 120777

Committee Item No. _____
Board Item No. 50

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee _____ Date _____

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date 07/24/12

Cmte	Board	
☐	☐	Motion
☐	☒	Resolution
☐	☐	Ordinance
☐	☐	Legislative Digest
☐	☐	Budget Analyst Report
☐	☐	Legislative Analyst Report
☐	☐	Introduction Form (for hearings)
☐	☐	Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report
☐	☐	MOU
☐	☐	Grant Information Form
☐	☐	Grant Budget
☐	☐	Subcontract Budget
☐	☐	Contract/Agreement
☐	☐	Award Letter
☐	☐	Application
☐	☐	Public Correspondence

OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)

☐ ☐ _____
☐ ☐ _____
☐ ☐ _____

Completed by: Nicole Lyshorn Date 7/19/12
Completed by: _____ Date _____

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

[Transgender Health Care Inclusion in Healthy San Francisco]

Resolution calling on the San Francisco Department of Public Health to provide medically necessary transition-related care for transgender people and to remove exclusions under the San Francisco Health Care Security Ordinance.

WHEREAS, Access to health care is regularly denied to transgender and gender non-conforming people, who frequently experience discrimination, including denial of services, when attempting to access health care; and

WHEREAS, Transition-related medical care, including surgeries, is often dismissed as "cosmetic" or "elective" despite the medical community's recognition of such procedures as medically necessary and effective treatment; and

WHEREAS, Various studies have concluded that receiving medically necessary transition related treatment results in a dramatic drop in suicidality, an overall improvement in mental health, a reduction in HIV infection, a decline in substance abuse rates, and an increase in socioeconomic status for transgender people; and

WHEREAS, The Health Care Security Ordinance ("Healthy SF") — San Francisco's locally designed and funded health care program for uninsured adults — currently provides certain health care services to transgender participants, but administratively excludes other services, such as sex reassignment surgery based on a diagnosis of gender identity dysphoria, when the same services are provided to non-transgender participants, thus denying transgender residents access to necessary health care under this local program; and

WHEREAS, The exclusion of certain transition-related procedures singles out and negatively impacts transgender people; and

WHEREAS, Unlike vision and dental coverage, this exclusion is not mandated by the Health Care Security Ordinance itself; and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Tom Ammiano, the primary author of the ordinance, has said that he intended Healthy SF to eventually include transition related health care and that the program was intended to address the needs of San Franciscans without discrimination against any resident; and

WHEREAS, The Director of Public Health and the Director of the Human Rights Commission have been working together and with the community to fulfill the intent of Healthy SF by extending its coverage to the complete medical needs of transgender people; and

WHEREAS, Concerns of cost and over-utilization are often overstated and serve to justify impermissible discrimination against the transgender community; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Insurance studied actuarial data of five employers, including the City and County of San Francisco, and concluded in its "Economic Impact Statement" that the economic impact of transgender health care inclusion is insignificant and immaterial, and that inclusion in fact provides cost savings as well as significant benefits for the health, welfare, and safety of the transgender population; and

WHEREAS, A growing trend among private businesses is to remove transgender health care exclusions; and

WHEREAS, Courts have recognized the injustice of excluding medically necessary transition-related health services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms its strong commitment to equal and fair treatment of transgender people; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Department of Public Health to remove the sexual-reassignment surgery exclusion from Healthy SF; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Department of Public Health, with community input, to take administrative steps necessary to provide medically necessary gender-transition-related care.

Print Form

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

☐ 1. For reference to Committee: _____
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.

☒ 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.

☐ 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee: _____

☐ 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor _____ inquires"

☐ 5. City Attorney request.

☐ 6. Call File No. _____ from Committee.

☐ 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).

☐ 8. Substitute Legislation File No. _____

☐ 9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).

☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.

☐ 11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on _____

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission

☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a different form.

Sponsor(s):

Supervisors Wiener, Olague, Campos, Avalos, Chiu, Cohen, Mar and Kim

Subject:

Transgender Health Care Inclusion in Healthy San Francisco

The text is listed below or attached:

Resolution calling on the San Francisco Department of Public Health to provide medically necessary transition-related care for transgender people and to remove exclusions under the San Francisco Health Care Security Ordinance.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: _____

For Clerk's Use Only:

120777