

1 [Supporting California State Proposition 56 - California Healthcare, Research, and Prevention  
2 Tobacco Tax Amendment]

3 **Resolution supporting the efforts of the California State Legislature on Proposition 56,**  
4 **which would increase the Cigarette Tax by 87 cents per pack to fund Healthcare,**  
5 **Education, Tobacco Use Prevention, and Research.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors is taking a  
8 stand to save lives by supporting the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention  
9 Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 on the November 2016 ballot ; and

10 WHEREAS, Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in California; and

11 WHEREAS, 90 percent of smokers start as teenagers and over 16,000 children in  
12 California get hooked on smoking every year, and half of the teens who start will die from  
13 smoking related illness; and

14 WHEREAS, Tobacco is responsible for about one of every seven deaths, or 14%, in  
15 San Francisco; and

16 WHEREAS; For every 10 percent increase in the cost of a pack of cigarettes, teen  
17 smoking drops by up to 6.5%; and

18 WHEREAS, Teen e-cigarette use tripled between 2013 and 2014; and

19 WHEREAS, Every year, smoking costs California taxpayers billions of dollars, including  
20 \$3.5 billion spent annually on Medi-Cal to treat smoking-related diseases; and

21 WHEREAS, The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of  
22 2016 will reduce smoking rates and long-term healthcare costs; and

23 WHEREAS, The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of  
24 2016 will fund healthcare programs through the Department of Health Care Services-including  
25 Medi-Cal, smoking prevention programs administered by the California Department of Public

1 Health Tobacco Control Program and the Department of Education, and medical research on  
2 tobacco-related diseases including cancer, heart and lung disease through the University of  
3 California; and

4 WHEREAS, The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of  
5 2016 will increase the tax on a pack of cigarettes sold in California from 87 cents a pack to  
6 \$2.87, and place equivalent taxes on other tobacco products containing nicotine, like e-  
7 cigarettes; and

8 WHEREAS, Californians must stand together against Big Tobacco to save lives and  
9 help smokers quit; and

10 WHEREAS, The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tax Act of 2016 is  
11 supported by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the American Heart  
12 Association, the American Lung Association in California, Blue Shield of California, the  
13 California Medical Association, the California Dental Association, the California Hospital  
14 Association, and the Service Employees International Union; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors strongly  
16 supports the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax of 2016 to take a  
17 stand to save lives and help smokers quit; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
19 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to communicate this resolution to California State  
20 Legislators.