

1 [Supporting House of Representatives Bill - Michelle Alyssa Go Act]

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3 **Resolution supporting the United States House of Representative Bill, the**  
4 **“Michelle Alyssa Go Act,” introduced by Congressman Dan Goldman,**  
5 **Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, Congressman Tony Cárdenas, and**  
6 **Congressman Gus M. Bilirakis, which increases the cap of Medicaid-eligible**  
7 **inpatient psychiatric beds a care facility can have from 16 to 36.**

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9 WHEREAS, The mental health crisis in America has become increasingly dire,  
10 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and there is a critical need for comprehensive  
11 and equitable mental health care; and

12 WHEREAS, The current federal prohibition on Medicaid coverage for long-term  
13 stays in institutions with more than 16 beds (Institutions for Mental Diseases, or IMD)  
14 severely limits access to necessary inpatient psychiatric care for individuals aged 21 to  
15 64; and

16 WHEREAS, The tragic death of Michelle Alyssa Go highlights the significant  
17 gaps in mental health infrastructure, as her attacker, Martial Simon, who was  
18 experiencing homelessness and diagnosed with schizophrenia, did not receive the long-  
19 term psychiatric care he needed; and

20 WHEREAS, This act proposes to increase the cap of Medicaid-eligible inpatient  
21 psychiatric beds a care facility can have from 16 to 36; and

22 WHEREAS, In doing so, this measure more than doubles the Medicaid-eligible  
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1 psychiatric bed capacity of a patient care facility, thereby enabling increased availability  
2 of beds for individuals seeking treatment for mental health and substance use disorders  
3 across the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, The bill is named in honor of Michelle Go, a 40-year-old woman who  
5 was tragically pushed in front of an oncoming R train in Times Square by a  
6 schizophrenic homeless man with a long history of psychiatric issues that were never  
7 appropriately addressed; and

8 WHEREAS, This bipartisan legislation mandates that mental health facilities  
9 receiving federal Medicaid funding adhere to nationally recognized, evidence-based  
10 standards for mental health and substance use disorder programs, ensuring high-quality  
11 care; and

12 WHEREAS, The bill has garnered widespread support from various  
13 organizations, including the Treatment Advocacy Center, National Alliance on Mental  
14 Illness, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, National  
15 Association of Counties, National Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Stand with  
16 Asian Americans, Asian Americans Rise, National Association of County Behavioral  
17 Health and Developmental Disability Directors, New York Junior League, and  
18 Schizophrenia Policy Action Network; and

19 WHEREAS, The bill honors the memory of Michelle Alyssa Go and aims to  
20 prevent future tragedies by addressing systemic flaws in the mental health care system,  
21 providing necessary resources for life-saving crisis care, and improving public safety;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, While those suffering from mental illness are far more likely to be  
24 victims of violence than perpetrators, this tragedy proved a stark reminder of the glaring  
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1 gaps in our mental health infrastructure and underscores the need to help them get the  
2 necessary and life-saving care they need; and

3 WHEREAS, This legislation aligns with ongoing efforts to support individuals with  
4 serious mental illnesses (SMI) and improve mental health services across the country,  
5 including the ‘Strengthening Medicaid for Serious Mental Illness Act’ and the ‘Helping  
6 Kids Cope Act’ introduced and supported by Congressman Dan Goldman; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
9 Francisco hereby endorses the Michelle Alyssa Go Act, recognizing its significance in  
10 expanding access to mental health care by increasing the number of Medicaid-eligible  
11 inpatient psychiatric beds, addressing systemic flaws in the mental health care system,  
12 and ensuring high-quality, evidence-based treatment for individuals in need; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs  
14 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the offices of Speaker  
15 Emerita Pelosi, Congressman Kevin Mullin, Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Laphonza  
16 Butler, and Congressman Dan Goldman, as a demonstration of the Board's support for  
17 the “Michelle Alyssa Go Act” and its commitment to improving mental health care  
18 access and ensuring high-quality treatment for all individuals in need.

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