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Resolution commending San Francisco Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) and Senior Action Network for Assisting Seniors and the Disabled in Obtaining Health Care and Medication Benefits

WHEREAS: Over 120,000 Seniors and People with disabilities in San Francisco rely on the Medicare program for life saving health care; and,

WHEREAS: The Medicare program is a hugely complicated and often hard to understand insurance program; and,

WHEREAS: The federal government provides limited help or assistance to beneficiaries of the Medicare program in understanding its provision or resolving disputes; and,

WHEREAS, The new Medicare Part D program introduced in 2006 has caused exceptionally high levels of confusion and problems in obtaining prescription drugs for the most frail and vulnerable populations on Medi-Cal and Medicare; and,

WHEREAS, The Department of Aging and Adult Services funds the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) to deliver objective and timely advice to Medicare recipients in this time of confusion and change; and,

WHEREAS, The HICAP has provided an exceptional level of service to the community since the inception of Medicare Part D in the Fall of 2005:

- counseling more than 2,000 callers,
- providing over 200 in person counseling sessions,
- reaching out to the community with education and training events that have touched over 4,000 people
- producing and distributing over 50,000 brochures in four languages; and,

WHEREAS: HICAP in San Francisco has been a leader in the State of California in developing education materials, spearheading outreach to professional communities in the Bay Area, and reaching out to nursing home residents and people with disabilities with information on Medicare; and,

WHEREAS: This work has been led by a core of twelve volunteer counselors, of which some have served for over ten years with no remuneration; therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Francisco commend Senior Action Network and the San Francisco HICAP program, and its committed staff and devoted volunteers for their exceptional efforts to help Seniors and persons with disabilities obtain health care, prescription drugs, and helpful, understandable information on Medicare.

Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

060417

Date Passed:

Resolution commending San Francisco Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) and Senior Action Network for Assisting Seniors and the Disabled in Obtaining Health Care and Medication Benefits.

April 4, 2006 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 060417

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 4, 2006 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

4.6.06

Date Approved

ayor Gavin Newsom

k of the Board