

1 [Resolution of Intent to Use Some of San Francisco’s Financial Recoveries from Opioid
2 Litigation to Open and Operate Wellness Hubs by 2025]

3 **Resolution declaring the Board of Supervisors’ intent to use a portion of the abatement**
4 **funds arising from San Francisco’s opioid litigation to open and operate wellness hubs,**
5 **as outlined by the Department of Public Health’s Overdose Prevention Plan, by 2025.**
6

7 WHEREAS, San Francisco is dealing with a fatal drug overdose epidemic that has
8 claimed the lives of nearly 1,900 San Franciscans since January 2020; and

9 WHEREAS, In December 2021, due to the increasing drug crisis, Mayor London Breed
10 declared a State of Emergency in the Tenderloin and established the Tenderloin Linkage
11 Center to provide unhoused individuals, often dealing with underlying mental health issues
12 and substance abuse, a safe place to meet basic needs, get linked to services, and safely use
13 out of public view; and

14 WHEREAS, Mayor London Breed decided to close the Tenderloin Linkage Center after
15 less than a year of operation because according to her spokesperson Parisa Safarzadeh the
16 facility was only meant as an “intermediate intervention to stabilize the community in the short
17 term while the city developed its longer term plans for the Tenderloin”; and

18 WHEREAS, During its 11 months of operation, the Tenderloin Linkage Center had over
19 400 visitors a day and reversed 333 overdoses; and

20 WHEREAS, In preparation for the closure, the Department of Public Health released an
21 Overdose Prevention Plan with the overall goal of reducing overdose deaths by 15% by 2025;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, The Overdose Prevention Plan includes opening wellness hubs to provide
24 overdose prevention services including safe consumption, services to improve health, and
25 linkages to treatment; and

1 WHEREAS, Nearly 200 safe consumption sites operate around the world, including two
2 in New York City, and zero overdose deaths have been reported at those locations; and

3 WHEREAS, Allowing people a place to use safely and out of public view not only saves
4 lives but are proved to reduce open air drug use and improve conditions on the street; and

5 WHEREAS, As a result of ongoing opioid litigation, San Francisco has secured more
6 than \$120 million in settlement funds over several years; and

7 WHEREAS, Although San Francisco’s lawsuit against Walgreens is still in process, the
8 City won the case, and the next phase will determine the amount of funds due; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of California has been a part of national lawsuits and has
10 received funds amounting to \$2.2 billion, 15% of which will be allocated to local jurisdictions
11 based on a specific formula; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco will be receiving 3.15% of those settlement funds
13 amounting to roughly 70 million; and

14 WHEREAS, The settlement agreements provide that the abatement funds be used for
15 Substance Use Disorder Treatment;

16 WHEREAS, These wellness hubs are a critical component of the substance use
17 continuum of care, capturing individuals who are in the precontemplation stage of substance
18 use treatment and at high risk of overdose death; now therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors for the City and County of San Francisco,
20 hereby declares its intent to use a portion of the settlement funds received from opioid
21 lawsuits towards opening and operating Wellness Hubs by 2025;

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
23 of Supervisors to transmit this Resolution to the Mayor, the City Attorney, the Controller, and
24 the Department of Public Health.

25