

1 [Supporting California Senate Bill 277 (Pan) - Repealing the Personal Belief Exemption for
2 Vaccines]

3 **Resolution supporting California Senate Bill 277, introduced by Senator Pan, repealing**
4 **the personal belief exemption for vaccines.**

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6 WHEREAS, Proper vaccinations have led to the elimination or near elimination of
7 diseases, including smallpox, measles and chicken pox; and

8 WHEREAS, Ensuring proper vaccinations leads to herd immunity, which means that if
9 a majority of people in a community are vaccinated, then someone who can't be vaccinated is
10 less likely to get sick; and

11 WHEREAS, Scientific consensus is widely supportive of the importance and safety of
12 vaccines and studies stating otherwise have been scientifically discredited; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1978, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention set a goal to
14 eliminate measles by 1982 and though this goal was not met, the use of the measles vaccine
15 reduced the number of measles cases by 80% in that time period; and

16 WHEREAS, Due to a sustained vaccination program, Measles was declared eliminated
17 from the United States in 2000, which means it is no longer native to the United States,
18 though it can be brought in and spread by international travelers; and

19 WHEREAS, Under current California law, all children must be vaccinated for many
20 diseases, including measles, with exemptions granted for medical reasons, religious beliefs,
21 and personal beliefs; and

22 WHEREAS, California is one of only 19 states to grant exemptions based on personal
23 belief; and

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1 WHEREAS, From 2000 to 2014, the rate of California parents requesting personal
2 belief exemptions from vaccinations tripled to one in every 40 kids; and

3 WHEREAS, In December 2014, according to the Center for Disease Control, California
4 began experiencing a large outbreak of measles when at least 40 people who visited or
5 worked at Disneyland contracted measles; and

6 WHEREAS, Measles infections have risen to infect at least 123 Californians in 12
7 counties; and

8 WHEREAS, State Senator Richard Pan, along with co-authors Senator Ben Allen and
9 Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez, introduced SB 277, which will require that only children
10 who have been immunized for specific diseases, including measles, be admitted to school in
11 California; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco strongly supports Senate Bill
13 277 repealing the personal belief exemption for vaccines; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco is in support of
15 achieving and maintaining high vaccination levels for all children, unless they have medical
16 reasons not to be vaccinated.