

1 [Urging Congress to approve funding for housing and supportive services for the chronically  
2 homeless.]

3 **Resolution urging Congress to approve \$200 million for the Samaritan Initiative to**  
4 **implement housing and supportive services strategies to end chronic homelessness.**  
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6 WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco is committed to ending chronic  
7 homelessness in San Francisco; and

8 WHEREAS, chronically homeless individuals—those who struggle with the most  
9 persistent forms of homelessness— are sometimes afflicted not only by poverty but also by  
10 chronic conditions such as mental illness and substance abuse; and

11 WHEREAS, housing for the chronically homeless is most effective when supportive  
12 services regarding physical health, substance abuse, and mental health problems are offered  
13 in tandem with housing; and

14 WHEREAS, significant research has demonstrated that supportive housing models to  
15 end chronic homelessness can be highly effective and that the cost of such housing is  
16 substantially offset by savings to expensive systems of community care including  
17 hospitalization and incarceration; and

18 WHEREAS, the abolition of chronic homelessness requires collaboration and  
19 coordination at all levels of government, together with community institutions, businesses, and  
20 neighborhood and faith-based organizations, to determine how best to implement prevention  
21 and intervention strategies; and

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
23 urges Congress to pass the \$200 million multi-federal agency budget proposal for the  
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1 Samaritan Initiative for the 2005-06 federal budget, which will help cities implement housing  
2 and supportive services strategies to end chronic homelessness; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City and County of San Francisco supports an  
4 increased investment of at least \$45 million to be included in the federal government's  
5 Projects of Regional and National Significance for the Ending Long Term Homelessness  
6 Service Initiative to increase on-site supportive services of the Samaritan Initiative.

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