

1 [AB 55 Health care service plans]  
2 URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR DAVIS TO  
3 APPROVE ASSEMBLY BILL 55 REGULATING HEALTH CARE SERVICE PLANS.  
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5 WHEREAS, The Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 provides that  
6 health care service plans are regulated by the Department of Corporations; and,

7 WHEREAS, Every health care service plan is required by law to establish and maintain  
8 a grievance system approved by the Department of Corporations; and,

9 WHEREAS, Currently, after participating for at least 60 days in the health care service  
10 plan's grievance system, an enrollee or subscriber may submit the grievance or complaint to  
11 the Department of Corporations for review; and,

12 WHEREAS, Every health care service plan and disability insurer is required by law to  
13 establish a reasonable external, independent review process to examine coverage decisions  
14 regarding experimental or investigational therapies for individual enrollees or insureds who  
15 have a terminal condition and meet certain specified criteria; and,

16 WHEREAS, The California State Legislature is currently considering Assembly Bill 55,  
17 which was introduced by Assemblymembers Migden and Strom-Martin; and,

18 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would require health care service plans to provide  
19 subscribers and enrollees with written responses to grievances; and,

20 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would permit an enrollee or subscriber to submit a  
21 grievance to the Department of Corporations for review after participating in the plan's  
22 grievance process for 30 days; and,

23 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would require the Department of Corporations to respond  
24 to each grievance in writing within 30 days; and,

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1           WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would require every health care service plan to allow an  
2 enrollee to seek an independent medical review whenever health care services have been  
3 denied, terminated, or otherwise limited by the plan or one of its contracting providers; and,

4           WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would require the Department of Corporations to  
5 establish an independent medical review system to review the denial, termination, or  
6 limitation of the provision of health care services; and,

7           WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 would also provide for an independent medical review  
8 system to be established in the Department of Insurance for review of similar decisions by  
9 disability insurers; and,

10          WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 55 is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in  
11 File No. 990094 ; now, therefore, be it

12          RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors endorses Assembly Bill 55  
13 and urges the Legislature and Governor to approve this legislation; and, be it

14          FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his Honor, the  
15 Mayor, with a request that he transmit copies to the delegation from San Francisco in the  
16 State Legislature, as well as Governor Davis, with a request they take all action necessary to  
17 achieve the objectives of this resolution.

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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 990094

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the California State Legislature and Governor Davis to approve Assembly Bill 55 regulating health care service plans.

January 25, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 7 - Bierman, Brown, Katz, Leno, Yaki, Yee, Ammiano  
Absent: 4 - Becerril, Kaufman, Newsom, Teng

File No. 990094

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on January 25, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

FEB - 5 1999

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.