

1 [Resolution Urging Reducing Exposure to Bisphenol A]

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3 **Resolution calling upon San Francisco hospitals and retailers to help reduce infant**
4 **exposure to Bisphenol A (BPA) by discontinuing the sale and distribution of baby**
5 **bottles containing BPA.**

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7 WHEREAS, Bisphenol A (BPA) is one of the highest volume chemicals, produced
8 worldwide, and is used as a key component of polycarbonate plastic; and,

9 WHEREAS, Biomonitoring studies conducted by the United States Center for Disease
10 Control and Prevention have established that BPA is present in 93% of Americans six years
11 and older; and,

12 WHEREAS, BPA is a suspected endocrine disruptor that could potentially damage
13 human health; and,

14 WHEREAS, Newborns and infants are a population particularly vulnerable to
15 endocrine disrupting effects of BPA; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States federal government has the authority to regulate BPA
17 but to date has not taken protective action even though an expert panel from the National
18 Toxicology Program (NTP) Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction
19 (CERHR) expressed some concern that, in infants and children, exposure to BPA causes
20 neural and behavioral effects; and,

21 WHEREAS, while international scientific bodies have not reached a consensus about
22 the potential harm posed by exposure to BPA, Canada has banned polycarbonate baby
23 bottles and is developing stringent limits for the leaching of BPA from infant formula cans;
24 and,

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1 WHEREAS, In 2003 the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors (San
2 Francisco) adopted the Precautionary Principle as the foundation for its Environment Code,
3 mandating anticipatory action to prevent harm; and is committed to reducing unnecessary
4 risks for its residents; and,

5 WHEREAS, Due to widespread public concern about the safety of products containing
6 BPA, manufacturers such as Playtex and Nalgene have adopted a precautionary approach
7 and have moved to voluntarily eliminate BPA from their products; and,

8 WHEREAS, National retailers like Wal-Mart, Whole Foods, and Toys-R-Us are also
9 supporting such a precautionary approach and are no longer selling products designed for
10 young children that contain BPA; and,

11 WHEREAS, In 2005 San Francisco adopted the United Nations Urban Environmental
12 Accords which calls on cities to regulate or reduce the use of toxic chemicals used by the city
13 or its residents; and,

14 WHEREAS, In 2007 San Francisco adopted the Healthy Products Healthy Children
15 Ordinance that banned chemicals called phthalates from being sold in children's products and
16 emphasized the importance of taking future action to address the issue of BPA; and,

17 WHEREAS, A recent survey of San Francisco retail stores found that approximately 50
18 percent of baby bottles offered for sale in those stores contain BPA; and,

19 WHEREAS, A number of San Francisco hospitals distribute plastic baby bottles to new
20 mothers; and,

21 WHEREAS, Many alternatives to polycarbonate baby bottles containing BPA exist and
22 are available on the United States market; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls upon San Francisco
24 hospitals and retailers to help reduce infant exposure to BPA by discontinuing the sale and
25 distribution of baby bottles containing BPA. .