

1 [Resolution urging full funding of CHIPPS.]

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3 **Resolution urging full funding and implementation of the Community and Home Injury**
4 **Prevention Project for Seniors (CHIPPS) by the San Francisco Department of Public**
5 **Health.**

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7 WHEREAS, The leading cause of injury death to seniors is from falls in the home,
8 which causes 32% of injury deaths to San Francisco seniors; and

9 WHEREAS, The leading cause of injury hospitalization of seniors is from falls in the
10 home, which causes 77% of San Francisco senior hospitalizations; and,

11 WHEREAS, In 1996 an estimated \$40 million annually was spent on hospitalization of
12 senior injuries (excluding Kaiser), with 75% resulting from falls in the home; and,

13 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, falls in the home account for 74% of all injury
14 hospitalization discharges to long-term residential or home health service care; and,

15 WHEREAS, For seniors, who frequently require extensive follow-up care, including
16 long-term institutionalization, permanent dependency on family members or attendants, home
17 renovations and other direct and indirect costs, actual costs, both financially and mentally are
18 considerably higher; and,

19 WHEREAS, Household hazards such as falls, burns and scalds pose special problems
20 to older people, and it is possible to prevent many such injuries; and,

21 WHEREAS, There is a common misconception that falling and injuries such as a
22 broken hip happen by chance and for those over age 60, such events are seen as an
23 inevitable consequences of aging; and,

24 WHEREAS, Injuries of seniors and persons with disabilities in the home can be
25 prevented; and,

1 WHEREAS, Injury prevention is less expensive to the City over time than is treatment
2 after the fact; and,

3 WHEREAS, The Community and Home Injury Prevention Project for Seniors (CHIPPS)
4 helped older people avoid these problems at home and in the community from 1992 to
5 February, 2004; and,

6 WHEREAS, The goals of CHIPPS are:

- 7 • Create awareness that many injuries to older people can be prevented,
- 8 • Develop simple ways to recognize and correct injury hazards,
- 9 • Provide resources and information to health professionals and the public; and,

10 WHEREAS, CHIPPS provides educational presentations, workshops, home
11 assessments and small home modifications to San Francisco seniors; and,

12 WHEREAS, CHIPPS is not funded and has been in effect not staffed since February
13 2004; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors calls for full implementation of the
15 Community and Home Injury Prevention Project for Seniors (CHIPPS) by the San Francisco
16 Department of Public Health.

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