

[Urging Protection of Medi-Cal Dental Funding for California Children]

Resolution urging the Governor and State Legislature to protect Medi-Cal Dental funding for California children; and reject proposed cuts and to fully restore funding in the 2026 state budget.

WHEREAS, The health and well-being of children is a fundamental priority for the state of California and for the residents of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Preventive dental care is essential to children's overall health, educational success, and long-term well-being, and untreated dental disease can lead to pain, infection, difficulty eating, and preventable emergency room visits; and

WHEREAS, Dental pain is one of the leading reasons children miss school, with nearly 900,000 school days lost in California each year due to dental problems, directly undermining academic achievement and family stability; and

WHEREAS, Medi-Cal Dental (Denti-Cal) provides critical access to preventive and restorative dental care for millions of low-income children across California, including children and families residing in the San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's proposed 2026 state budget includes a \$144 million reduction to Medi-Cal Dental for children, a cut that would also forfeit approximately \$182 million in matching federal funds, compounding the impact of the reduction; and

WHEREAS, These proposed cuts represent approximately four-hundredths of one percent (0.045%) of California's \$323 billion state budget, yet would have outsized and lasting consequences for children's health; and

1 WHEREAS, Reducing funding for preventive dental care does not save money, but
2 instead shifts costs to more expensive emergency room and acute care settings, increasing
3 long-term healthcare expenditures for state and local governments; and

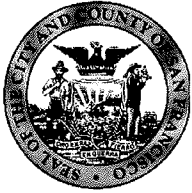
4 WHEREAS, Budgets are a reflection of priorities, and protecting children's access to
5 basic healthcare, including dental care should remain a core priority of the state of California;
6 now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
8 hereby urges Governor Gavin Newsom and the California Legislature to reject proposed cuts
9 to Medi-Cal Dental and to fully restore and protect funding for children's dental care in the
10 2026 state budget; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors affirms that dental care is
12 healthcare, and that access to preventive dental services is essential to keeping children
13 healthy, in school, and out of emergency rooms; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit copies of this
15 Resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, the President pro Tempore of the
16 Senate, and San Francisco's state legislative delegation; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco stands with
18 community leaders, healthcare providers, educators, and families across California in calling
19 on state leaders to put children's health first and keep their hands off kids' health.
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City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

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

File Number: 260224

Date Passed: March 10, 2026

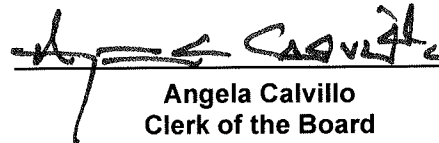
Resolution urging the Governor and State Legislature to protect Medi-Cal Dental funding for California children; and reject proposed cuts and to fully restore funding in the 2026 state budget.

March 10, 2026 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill, Walton and Wong

File No. 260224

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/10/2026 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

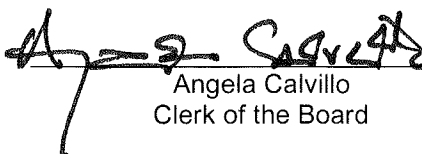
Unsigned

03/20/2026

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

03/20/2026

Date