

1 [Supporting Bans on Nontherapeutic Uses of Antibiotics in Livestock Production]

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3 **Resolution supporting State and national bans on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in**
4 **livestock production.**

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6 WHEREAS, Eighty percent of the antibiotics sold for use by people and farm animals in
7 the United States are used in livestock production, according to 2009 statistics from the Food
8 and Drug Administration; and

9 WHEREAS, Low doses of antibiotics are routinely fed to livestock for growth promotion
10 and disease prevention to compensate for crowded, unsanitary conditions, in a practice
11 known as “nontherapeutic use”; and

12 WHEREAS, Nontherapeutic use of antibiotics creates ideal conditions for the
13 development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria; and

14 WHEREAS, Antibiotic-resistant bacteria in livestock are known to spread to retail meat,
15 farmers and farm workers, and rural environments; and

16 WHEREAS, Antibiotic resistance in pathogens due to nontherapeutic use of antibiotics
17 in livestock production has been a public health concern since the 1960s; and

18 WHEREAS, Antibiotic-resistant bacteria have been the cause of several food-borne
19 illness outbreaks, including a 2011 outbreak of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella in ground turkey
20 that sickened 136 people, hospitalized 37, and killed one and lead to the third largest meat
21 recall in the USDA’s records; and a 2013 outbreak of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella in chicken
22 that sickened 634 and hospitalized 241; and

23 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that at least two
24 million Americans suffer from antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections each year and twenty-
25 three thousand Americans die from those infections; and

1 WHEREAS, A 2009 Center for Disease Control report, The Direct Medical Costs of
2 Healthcare-Associated Infections in U.S. Hospitals and the Benefits of Prevention, estimated
3 that the overall annual direct medical costs of healthcare-associated infections to U.S.
4 hospitals ranges from \$28.4 to \$45 billion; and

5 WHEREAS, The federal government has limited nontherapeutic uses of two classes of
6 antibiotics, but otherwise largely relied on voluntary guidance to attempt to reduce overuse of
7 antibiotics in livestock production, despite regular acknowledgements that nontherapeutic use
8 and the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria poses a significant public health threat;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Louise Slaughter (D-NY) has introduced House Resolution
11 1150, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA) that would ban non-
12 therapeutic uses of medically important antibiotics in food animal production; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) has introduced Senate Bill 1256, the
14 Preventing Antibiotic Resistance Act (PARA) that would also ban non-therapeutic uses of
15 medically important antibiotics in food animal production; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
17 supports a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock
18 production; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
20 Board to send a copy of this resolution to our state, congressional, and United States Senate
21 representatives; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the Department of the
23 Environment to report on measures the City could take to reduce the amount of agricultural
24 products the City purchases that are derived from animals raised using non-therapeutic
25 antibiotics; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all employees and
2 residents of the City and County of San Francisco to reduce or eliminate their consumption of
3 agricultural products raised with non-therapeutic antibiotics.

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