

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 666 (Chiu) - Substance Use Disorder  
2 Workforce Development]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 666, which was introduced on**  
4 **February 12, 2021, by Assembly Member Chiu (AD- 17), and would require the State**  
5 **Department of Health Care Services to issue a workforce needs assessment report that**  
6 **evaluates the current state of substance use disorder workforce.**

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8 WHEREAS, San Francisco faced record high fatal overdoses of 699 individuals in  
9 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco demand for substance abuse  
11 treatment services is greater than the current capacity it can offer or staff; and

12 WHEREAS, In California, about 2.7 million residents have a substance abuse disorder  
13 in the past year but only 10 percent of those in need actually received treatment; and

14 WHEREAS, There are fewer than 20,000 substance use counselors statewide; and just  
15 700 doctors licensed with an addiction specialty; and

16 WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 666 (AB 666) would require the  
17 California State Department of Health Care Services (Department) by July 1, 2022, to issue a  
18 statewide substance use disorder (SUD) workforce needs assessment report that would  
19 evaluate the current state of the SUD workforce; and

20 WHEREAS, AB 666 would determine the type of barriers individuals face in seeking to  
21 entry into the SUD workforce, and assess the state's systems for regulating and supporting  
22 the SUD workforce; and

23 WHEREAS, AB 666 requires the Department by January 1, 2024, to take into  
24 consideration the needs assessment report, to create and implement a SUD workforce  
25 development program that supports a career ladder for the SUD workforce, and at a

1 minimum, would provide a number of program elements, including fee waivers to cover costs  
2 related to testing, registration, and certification for specified individuals, and tuition  
3 reimbursements for undergraduate and graduate students who complete coursework in  
4 programs related to SUDs; and

5 WHEREAS, AB 666 is needed to meet this city's need for more treatment on demand  
6 programs and this bill will help to address this need and potentially create a positive incentive  
7 for formerly incarcerated community members, communities of color and former substance  
8 abuse users to enter into higher education and professionalized training in regards to SUD  
9 workforce; and

10 WHEREAS, City College's Addiction and Recovery Counseling programming has  
11 helped countless individuals enter into the field of SUDs, this bill would assist in meeting a  
12 statewide need; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports Assembly Bill No.  
14 666 would require the California State Department of Health Care Services (Department) by  
15 July 1, 2022, to issue a statewide substance use disorder (SUD) workforce needs assessment  
16 report that would evaluate the current state of the SUD workforce; be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports  
18 Assembly Bill No. 666, the Combating the Overdose and Addiction Epidemic by Building the  
19 Substance Use Disorder Workforce (CODE W) Act; be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
21 County of San Francisco distribute this Resolution to San Francisco's State Legislative  
22 Delegation and to California Governor Gavin Newsom.

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