

1 [Supporting Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act]

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3 **Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to support Senate Bill 759,**  
4 **Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act.**  
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6 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco is  
7 deeply concerned about the public health and safety risks posed by aerial pesticides; and

8 WHEREAS, Aerial pesticide spraying is an outdated, inefficient practice that poses  
9 unacceptable exposure and risks; and

10 WHEREAS, Californians who live and work in communities that are exposed to  
11 pesticides—especially aerial pesticides sprayed from a helicopter or plane—face a well-  
12 documented risk of developing a broad array of acute and long-term adverse health  
13 conditions; and

14 WHEREAS, More than 500 ingredients that have been classified as inert have also  
15 been or are currently also used as active ingredients; and

16 WHEREAS, Recent research has shown that so-called inert ingredients may increase  
17 the toxicity of pesticides to developing nervous systems, cause genetic damage, and disrupt  
18 the normal function of hormonal systems; and

19 WHEREAS, Children, the elderly, pregnant women, and those with compromised  
20 immune systems and chronic illness, are more vulnerable to the adverse health effects of  
21 pesticide exposure; and

22 WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency emphasizes that children are  
23 at a greater risk for some pesticides, as their internal organs are still developing and  
24 maturing, and their immune systems may provide less natural protection than those of adults;  
25 and

1           WHEREAS, The elderly and those already ill are especially susceptible to adverse  
2 effects from pesticide exposure because of the extra vulnerability of their respiratory systems  
3 and lower immune function; and

4           WHEREAS, The California Department of Pesticide Regulation annual reports of the  
5 numbers of people poisoned by aerial pesticide spray exposure does not account for the  
6 long-term effects of pesticide exposure, such as cancer and birth defects; and

7           WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco and the greater Bay Area contain numerous  
8 sites where sensitive populations congregate, including schools, hospitals, day care centers,  
9 senior citizen centers and residential care homes; and

10          WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco and the greater Bay Area opposes food  
11 production practices that put the residents of any area at risk of aerial pesticide exposure;  
12 and

13          WHEREAS, Senate Bill 759 requires the Office of Environmental Health Hazard  
14 Assessment to use prescribed information regarding the effects of pesticides, including inert  
15 ingredients, to develop educational material for distribution to physicians and surgeons and to  
16 the public, and requires that “inert” ingredients, many of which pose serious health and  
17 environmental risks, are disclosed to the public before being applied aerially by a state  
18 contractor; now, therefore be it

19          RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports and endorses SB  
20 759, The Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act, and urges the California  
21 Assembly and Senate to pass SB 759 and urges the Governor to sign SB 759 into law.

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