

1 [Condemning President Trump's Executive Order Criminalizing Homelessness and Poverty]

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3 **Resolution condemning President Trump's Executive Order “Ending Crime and**
4 **Disorder on America’s Streets” criminalizing mental health and substance use**
5 **disorders, homelessness, and poverty, and defund evidence-based solutions.**
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7 WHEREAS, On July 25, 2025, Republican President Donald Trump issued an
8 Executive Order “Ending Crime and Disorder on America’s Streets” that directs funding away
9 from some of the most impactful programs with numerous studies pointing to their efficacy;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In 2024, the San Francisco Police Department reported that property
12 crimes in San Francisco were down 31% from 2023, and violent crimes were down 14%; and

13 WHEREAS, In Section 1 of his Executive Order, President Trump states “The Federal
14 Government and the States have spent tens of billions of dollars on failed programs that
15 address homelessness but not its root causes, leaving other citizens vulnerable to public
16 safety threats,” but fails to identify any “failed programs”, or the fact that federal funding for
17 homelessness and mental health has been slashed by the Trump Administration; and

18 WHEREAS, In Section 4 of his Executive Order, President Trump directs the federal
19 government to defund “harm reduction”, an evidence-based and empirically effective strategy
20 for addressing our public addiction crisis; and

21 WHEREAS, In Section 5 of his Executive Order, President Trump also called for
22 ending support for “Housing First” policies; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
24 has affirmed that “Permanent supportive housing models that use a Housing First approach
25

1 have been proven to be highly effective for ending homelessness, particularly for people
2 experiencing chronic homelessness who have higher service need; and

3 WHEREAS, Studies such as HUD's "The Applicability of Housing First Models to
4 Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illness" have shown that Housing First models result
5 in long-term housing stability, improved physical and behavioral health outcomes, and
6 reduced use of crisis services such as emergency departments, hospitals, and jails; and

7 WHEREAS, Research from the National Institute for Health (NIH) as recently as 2020
8 and 2022, has demonstrated that the most effective way for people to achieve long term
9 recovery from mental health and/or substance use issues is by dedicating resources towards
10 prevention, treatment, harm reduction and accountability; and

11 WHEREAS, In March of 2025, the Trump administration issued a grant freeze on \$3.6
12 billion of previously approved homeless funding; and

13 WHEREAS, As some funds remain withheld, even after a federal judge intervened, in
14 May of 2025, the Associated Press reported that 60,000 households will lose their Emergency
15 Housing Vouchers as a result of the Trump administration refusing to re-issue them; and

16 WHEREAS, The Trump administration has proposed \$1 billion in cuts to the Substance
17 Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration which includes programs targeting youth
18 mental health, homelessness-related support, substance abuse prevention, and HIV
19 education services; and

20 WHEREAS, President Trump has directed not only the total defunding of these
21 programs, but that the Attorney General can bring civil or criminal actions if deemed
22 appropriate, and that current recipients of federal funding could have all of their funds frozen if
23 they are found acting outside of President Trump's guidance; and

24 WHEREAS, Housing First has been adopted by San Francisco since 2004 and has
25 been proven to be an effective and evidence-based method of reducing poverty,

1 homelessness and barriers to shelter by prioritizing the unconditional provision of housing to
2 individuals experiencing homelessness; and

3 WHEREAS, Housing First policies have kept more than 18,000 people from sleeping
4 on San Francisco streets and prevented them from chronic homelessness; and

5 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, 83% of those placed in housing through Permanent
6 Supportive Housing achieve stability and stay housed for years; and

7 WHEREAS, San Francisco has \$64 million in Federal funds that go in part towards
8 Permanent Supportive Housing without which some of those 18,000 people would be back on
9 our streets; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2016, the California Legislature passed Senate Bill 1380 (Mitchell)
11 which required all statewide housing programs to adopt the Housing First model, and
12 recognizes it as an evidence-based model of ending all types of homelessness and the most
13 effective approach to ending chronic homelessness; and

14 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Board of Supervisors has passed 14 separate
15 Resolutions condemning or opposing the actions of President Trump and reaffirming our
16 support of San Francisco's established programs and norms of acceptance and respect for all
17 our citizens and city; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco hereby opposes President
19 Trump's Executive Order which seeks to defund and intimidate San Francisco and other cities
20 into abandoning data-driven, evidence based, and historically effective ways of addressing the
21 homelessness, mental health and addiction crises; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco affirms its
23 commitment to evidence-based solutions to the challenges facing us today; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor's Office of
2 Housing, and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to support evidence-
3 based solutions backed by academic, scientific and experience-based research.