

1 [Urging the Governor to Expedite the Procurement, Production, and Disbursement of Personal  
2 Protective Equipment and Ventilators]

3 **Resolution urging California State Governor Gavin Newsom to expedite the**  
4 **procurement, production, and disbursement of personal protective equipment and**  
5 **ventilators in the State of California.**

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7 WHEREAS, The County of San Francisco is currently experiencing an outbreak of the  
8 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), which has been deemed a global pandemic by the World  
9 Health Organization; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of California is a demonstrated leader in the fight against  
11 climate change; and

12 WHEREAS, Frontline healthcare workers such as doctors, nurses, paramedics, and In-  
13 Home Support Service (IHSS) providers have been the first line of defense in stopping the  
14 spread of COVID-19 often putting themselves in great risk of contracting the virus from  
15 various patients that they come into contact with every day; and

16 WHEREAS, Other healthcare professionals such as physical therapists, occupational  
17 therapists, and speech language pathology workers are also fearful for their health because  
18 they also come into close contact with a vulnerable set of people, like seniors or those with  
19 pre-existing health conditions; and

20 WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, as of April 4, 2020 there are  
21 1,136,851 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide and 67,507 people have died because of  
22 it; and

23 WHEREAS, On April 3, 2020, Johns Hopkins University reported that the novel  
24 coronavirus had infected more than 1.1 million people globally, killed more than 60,000  
25 worldwide, and had been detected in at least 175 countries; and

1           WHEREAS, In the United States, as of April 4, 2020, there are already 277,205 cases  
2 with 6,593 deaths; in California, there are 12,026 confirmed cases, including 3,299 confirmed  
3 cases in the Bay Area, and 276 confirmed deaths in California as well as 529 confirmed  
4 cases in San Francisco County; and

5           WHEREAS, The World Health Organization’s Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom  
6 Ghebreyesus this past month announced that production of personal protective equipment  
7 (PPE) must be increased by forty percent globally and that countries would not be able “to  
8 stop COVID-19 without protecting health workers first”; and

9           WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has enacted the Defense Protection Act and  
10 ordered the production of ventilators at General Motors, to help with the treatment of  
11 COVID-19 patients, similar actions need to be taken in California to produce PPE using  
12 Article 3 of the California Emergency Services Act (CA Government Code, Section 8572); and

13           WHEREAS, All frontline workers who come in contact with others and their goods need  
14 PPE to keep them and all of us safe and protected from the spread of COVID-19; and

15           WHEREAS, If healthcare professionals continue to follow the “business as usual”  
16 practices, they will undoubtedly become vectors for spreading the disease, further burdening  
17 our healthcare system; now, therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors implores California  
19 Governor Gavin Newsom to utilize the powers of his Executive Authority to expeditiously  
20 procure and distribute all PPE available in the state to healthcare workers through local  
21 distribution hubs to be coordinated by County public health departments; and, furthermore,  
22 that he impress upon local manufacturers, statewide, to begin producing PPE to remedy the  
23 current deficit of said protective gear in order to assure and provide improvements to safe  
24 working conditions for all frontline workers; and, be it

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1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That California, like the rest of the country, is experiencing a  
2 ventilator shortage and ventilators are a life-saving measure against COVID-19, thus, the San  
3 Francisco Board of Supervisors encourages California Governor Gavin Newsom to do  
4 everything in his power to procure and push for the production of ventilators and help fill the  
5 existing ventilator gap in California; and, be it

6           FURTHER RESOLVED, That California Governor Gavin Newsom ensure that the PPE  
7 be shared and made available to *all* frontline workers, e.g., porters, environmental service  
8 workers.

9           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit this Resolution to  
10 Governor Gavin Newsom.

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