

1 [Endorsing Statewide Ballot Measure]

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3 **Resolution endorsing the passage of California State Proposition 79, the “Cheaper**
4 **Prescription Drugs for California Act”, and urging the defeat of California State**
5 **Proposition 78, sponsored by major pharmaceutical manufacturers.**

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7 WHEREAS, Prescription drugs are one of the highest cost aspects of health care,
8 rising at three or four times the rate of inflation for the past ten years; and,

9 WHEREAS, Nearly one in five senior citizens in San Francisco skip medications
10 because of their high cost, and as many as one in three people of color skip or reduce
11 medications because of cost; and,

12 WHEREAS, Between 8 and 10 million of California’s most vulnerable low-income
13 people could benefit from significantly reduced costs for prescription drugs; and,

14 WHEREAS, Conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, and high
15 cholesterol can only be treated by prescription drugs, and skipping these daily medications
16 because of cost creates a life threatening condition; and,

17 WHEREAS, Proposition 79 represents a measure sponsored by senior activists,
18 consumer advocates and organized labor to use the power of the State to negotiate lower
19 drug costs on behalf of all Californians; and,

20 WHEREAS, Proposition 79 is sponsored by Consumers Union - Non-Profit publishers
21 of Consumer Reports, California Alliance for Retired Americans, Health Access California,
22 Congress of California Seniors, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, CALPIRG, and supported by
23 many other consumer, health, and senior organizations; and,

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1 WHEREAS, Proposition 78 relies on drug manufacturers to volunteer discounts, with
2 no mechanism to enforce the discounts, allowing drug companies to avoid providing a single
3 discount and cancel their discount plans at any time; and,

4 WHEREAS, Proposition 79 would provide affordable prescription drugs for 8-10 million
5 Californians, using the purchasing power of the state to leverage enforceable discounts from
6 prescription drug companies; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco officially endorses
8 California State Proposition 79, the “Cheaper Prescription Drugs for California Act”; and be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco officially opposes
10 California State Proposition 78, and calls for the defeat of this measure sponsored by the drug
11 industry.

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