

1 [Declaring May 2009 as Hepatitis B Awareness Month]

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3 **Resolution declaring May 2009 as Hepatitis B awareness month in San Francisco, with**
4 **the goal of holding at least one Hepatitis B awareness or prevention event every day of**
5 **the month; build on continuing efforts by the San Francisco community to make San**
6 **Francisco the first city in America to be free of Hepatitis B disease; encouraging all San**
7 **Francisco residents to know their own Hepatitis B status.**

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9 WHEREAS, Residents of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage comprise 34 percent of
10 the population of the City and County of San Francisco;

11 WHEREAS, Hepatitis B infection and liver cancer remain the greatest health disparity
12 for Asian/Pacific Islanders, and San Francisco has the highest rate of liver cancer in the
13 nation;

14 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Resolution
15 659-06 in November 2006 establishing the “goal of universal Hepatitis B screening and
16 vaccination for Asian and Pacific Islander residents of San Francisco” and the San Francisco
17 Health Commission unanimously passed a companion resolution endorsing that goal,
18 Resolution 16-06 in December 2006;

19 WHEREAS, San Francisco has been a leader in the nation for hepatitis B prevention
20 efforts including Chinese Hospital holding the first community screenings in America and San
21 Francisco General Hospital being one of the first municipal hospitals in America to provide
22 universal infant immunization;

23 WHEREAS, Current San Francisco Hep B prevention and education efforts have
24 tested approximately 5,000 individuals at campaign sites, with thousands more being tested in
25 their primary care physician’s offices;

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s citywide efforts are being watched as potentially a
2 national model with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highlighting San
3 Francisco’s model by announcing new guidelines for expanded national hepatitis B screening
4 at Chinatown Community Health Center in San Francisco on September 18, 2008;

5 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s healthcare community has worked together from all
6 sectors - public, private, and community – to provide linkages to care for all infected San
7 Franciscans regardless of insurance coverage;

8 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco
9 recognizes and expresses its appreciation to all the dedicated organizations and volunteers
10 who serve San Francisco with their hepatitis B advocacy and prevention efforts;

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all City and County departments are encouraged
12 to work with healthcare and community partners to have all of City and County employees
13 screened for hepatitis B;

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all healthcare institutions and providers work to
15 increase clinician education at all levels regarding the importance of hepatitis B screening and
16 to incorporate hepatitis B screenings in the routine healthcare check up of all individuals as
17 directed by national guidelines issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and
18 Prevention;

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all Asian/Pacific Islander residents of San
20 Francisco and other high target communities, are urged to know their own hepatitis B status
21 by getting screened, and to urge their own friends and families to also be screened.