

File No. 240690

Committee Item No. _____

Board Item No. 52

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: _____

Date: _____

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: June 18, 2024

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- Form 126 – Ethics Commission
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OTHER

- Michelle Alyssa Go Act - 5/12/24
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Prepared by: Lisa Lew

Date: June 14, 2024

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

1 [Supporting House of Representatives Bill - Michelle Alyssa Go Act]

2

3 **Resolution supporting the United States House of Representative Bill, the**
4 **“Michelle Alyssa Go Act,” introduced by Congressman Dan Goldman,**
5 **Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, Congressman Tony Cárdenas, and**
6 **Congressman Gus M. Bilirakis, which increases the cap of Medicaid-eligible**
7 **inpatient psychiatric beds a care facility can have from 16 to 36.**

8

9 WHEREAS, The mental health crisis in America has become increasingly dire,
10 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and there is a critical need for comprehensive
11 and equitable mental health care; and

12 WHEREAS, The current federal prohibition on Medicaid coverage for long-term
13 stays in institutions with more than 16 beds (Institutions for Mental Diseases, or IMD)
14 severely limits access to necessary inpatient psychiatric care for individuals aged 21 to
15 64; and

16 WHEREAS, The tragic death of Michelle Alyssa Go highlights the significant
17 gaps in mental health infrastructure, as her attacker, Martial Simon, who was
18 experiencing homelessness and diagnosed with schizophrenia, did not receive the long-
19 term psychiatric care he needed; and

20 WHEREAS, This act proposes to increase the cap of Medicaid-eligible inpatient
21 psychiatric beds a care facility can have from 16 to 36; and

22 WHEREAS, In doing so, this measure more than doubles the Medicaid-eligible
23

24

25

1 psychiatric bed capacity of a patient care facility, thereby enabling increased availability
2 of beds for individuals seeking treatment for mental health and substance use disorders
3 across the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, The bill is named in honor of Michelle Go, a 40-year-old woman who
5 was tragically pushed in front of an oncoming R train in Times Square by a
6 schizophrenic homeless man with a long history of psychiatric issues that were never
7 appropriately addressed; and

8 WHEREAS, This bipartisan legislation mandates that mental health facilities
9 receiving federal Medicaid funding adhere to nationally recognized, evidence-based
10 standards for mental health and substance use disorder programs, ensuring high-quality
11 care; and

12 WHEREAS, The bill has garnered widespread support from various
13 organizations, including the Treatment Advocacy Center, National Alliance on Mental
14 Illness, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, National
15 Association of Counties, National Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Stand with
16 Asian Americans, Asian Americans Rise, National Association of County Behavioral
17 Health and Developmental Disability Directors, New York Junior League, and
18 Schizophrenia Policy Action Network; and

19 WHEREAS, The bill honors the memory of Michelle Alyssa Go and aims to
20 prevent future tragedies by addressing systemic flaws in the mental health care system,
21 providing necessary resources for life-saving crisis care, and improving public safety;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, While those suffering from mental illness are far more likely to be
24 victims of violence than perpetrators, this tragedy proved a stark reminder of the glaring
25

1 gaps in our mental health infrastructure and underscores the need to help them get the
2 necessary and life-saving care they need; and

3
4 WHEREAS, This legislation aligns with ongoing efforts to support individuals with
5 serious mental illnesses (SMI) and improve mental health services across the country,
6 including the ‘Strengthening Medicaid for Serious Mental Illness Act’ and the ‘Helping
7 Kids Cope Act’ introduced and supported by Congressman Dan Goldman; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
10 Francisco hereby endorses the Michelle Alyssa Go Act, recognizing its significance in
11 expanding access to mental health care by increasing the number of Medicaid-eligible
12 inpatient psychiatric beds, addressing systemic flaws in the mental health care system,
13 and ensuring high-quality, evidence-based treatment for individuals in need; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
15 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the offices of Speaker
16 Emerita Pelosi, Congressman Kevin Mullin, Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Laphonza
17 Butler, and Congressman Dan Goldman, as a demonstration of the Board's support for
18 the “Michelle Alyssa Go Act” and its commitment to improving mental health care
19 access and ensuring high-quality treatment for all individuals in need.

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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to revise the definition of institution for mental diseases under the Medicaid program to exclude from such definition institutions having 36 beds or less if such institutions meet certain standards.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to revise the definition of institution for mental diseases under the Medicaid program to exclude from such definition institutions having 36 beds or less if such institutions meet certain standards.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Michelle Alyssa Go
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISING THE DEFINITION OF INSTITUTION FOR**
2 **MENTAL DISEASES UNDER THE MEDICAID**
3 **PROGRAM TO EXCLUDE FROM SUCH DEFINI-**
4 **TION INSTITUTIONS HAVING 36 BEDS OR**
5 **LESS IF SUCH INSTITUTIONS MEET CERTAIN**
6 **STANDARDS.**

7 Section 1905(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1396d(i)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(i) INSTITUTION FOR MENTAL DISEASES.—The
10 term ‘institution for mental diseases’ means a hospital,
11 nursing facility, or other institution that is primarily en-
12 gaged in providing diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons
13 with mental diseases, including medical attention, nursing
14 care, and related services, unless such hospital, facility,
15 or other institution—

16 “(1) has 36 beds or less; and

17 “(2) meets nationally recognized, evidence-
18 based standards for mental health programs (and, in
19 the case of an institution for mental diseases that
20 provides treatment for substance use disorders,
21 meets nationally recognized, evidence-based stand-
22 ards for substance use disorder programs, such as
23 the latest standards set forth by the American Soci-
24 ety of Addiction Medicine) approved by the Sec-
25 retary, including standards that establish the types
26 of services offered, hours of clinical care, and staff-

1 ing credentials for such an institution, and any other
2 standards as the Secretary may require.”.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
5 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act and shall
6 apply to State plans beginning on such date.

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Stefani

Subject:

Michelle Alyssa Go Act Support

The text is listed:

Resolution supporting the House of Representative's Bill – "Michelle Alyssa Go Act", introduced by Congressman Dan Goldman, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, Congressman Tony Cárdenas, and Congressman Gus M. Bilirakis, which increases the cap of Medicaid-eligible inpatient psychiatric beds a care facility can have from 16 to 36.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: /s/ Catherine Stefani