

1 [Hepatitis C]
2 DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO COORDINATE WITH LOCAL,
3 STATE, AND FEDERAL EFFORTS FOR HEPATITIS C PREVENTION, EDUCATION, AND
4 TESTING AND TO PROVIDE A STATUS UPDATE TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
5 WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

6 WHEREAS, In August of 1997, San Francisco showed leadership in bringing attention to the
7 deadly hepatitis C virus by hosting the first national conference on this disease; and,

8 WHEREAS, Hepatitis C (HCV), first called non-A non-B hepatitis, infects the liver and causes
9 inflammation; and,

10 WHEREAS, Each year, approximately 30,000 Americans become infected with hepatitis C, a
11 more frequent cause of chronic liver disease than hepatitis B; and,

12 WHEREAS, It is estimated that greater than 80% of hepatitis C cases become chronic
13 infections, 10% to 20% of persons with chronic infection develop liver cirrhosis in 20 to 30 years, 1%
14 to 5% with chronic infection develop liver cancer; and,

15 WHEREAS, The government estimates the number of annual deaths attributed to this illness is
16 currently 8,000 to 10,000 and could grow to 24,000 annually within two decades; and,

17 WHEREAS, People at risk include anyone who has had a blood transfusion prior to 1992,
18 injection drug users, victims of needle stick injuries, hemodialysis patients, those with percutaneous or
19 permucosal exposures to HCV-positive blood or contaminated instruments (such as unregulated tattoos
20 or body piercings, or unprotected sex); and,

21 WHEREAS, An estimated 3 million persons are believed to be carriers, meaning that they have
22 the virus in their system and, whether they have symptoms or not, they can infect others; and,

23 WHEREAS, The prevalence of hepatitis C is especially high among injection drug users, with
24 up to 80% to 90% testing positive; and among inmates, with approximately half of those tested
25 reporting positive; and,

SUPERVISORS
GAVIN NEWSOM , KATZ, LENO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 WHEREAS, Although infection by the hepatitis C virus can be determined by a simple and
2 specific blood test, this test is not a part of a routine physical, but by a patient's request only; and,

3 WHEREAS, Because hepatitis C has a similar transmission to that of HIV, it makes sense to test
4 for the two diseases together; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby direct the Department
6 of Public Health to coordinate with local, state, and federal efforts for hepatitis C prevention, education,
7 and testing; and, be it,

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this plan of action will include the following categories:

- 9 1. Provider and public education;
- 10 2. Integrated and comprehensive medical services for at risk populations, especially
11 those who are injection drug users, homeless, mentally ill, or in the jails;
- 12 3. Integrated prevention and control activities to at-risk communities, including those
13 served by HIV prevention services such as needle exchange programs;
- 14 4. Coalition building and information dissemination within advocacy and support
15 groups; and, be it,

16 —FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Health Department to —
17 provide a progress report within three months of the passage of this legislation.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 990217

Date Passed:

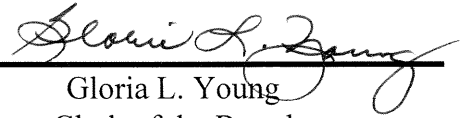
Resolution directing the Department of Public Health to coordinate with local, state, and federal efforts for Hepatitis C prevention, education, and testing and to provide a status update to the Board of Supervisors within three months.

August 23, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee

File No. 990217

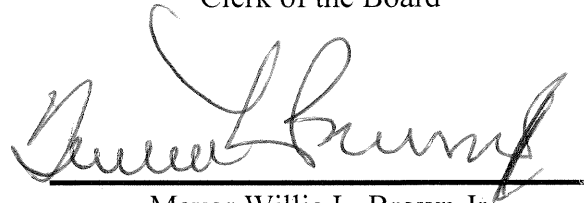
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution
was ADOPTED on August 23, 1999 by the
Board of Supervisors of the City and County
of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

SEP - 3 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.