

1 [Endorsing San Francisco’s inclusion in the “Healthy Purchase Pilot Program”]

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3 **Resolution endorsing and supporting San Francisco’s inclusion in the California**
4 **Department of Public Health’s “Healthy Purchase Pilot Program”.**

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6 WHEREAS, The Healthy Purchase Pilot Program is a groundbreaking effort to provide
7 healthy food choices for families by making it easier and more affordable for low-income
8 households to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables; and,

9 WHEREAS, The Healthy Purchase Pilot Program provides an immediate rebate for
10 food stamp recipients purchasing fruits and vegetables; and,

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a strong history of successfully piloting innovations
12 in the food stamp program; and,

13 WHEREAS, San Francisco has developed a program to work with corner and small
14 store owners to increase access to fresh produce and healthy foods in their stores in
15 exchange for incentives such as refrigeration units and promotional activities; and,

16 WHEREAS, The Healthy Purchase Pilot Program would also be beneficial to food
17 retailers because it would help small grocery stores carry fresh fruits and vegetables and
18 sell more produce; and,

19 WHEREAS, Despite hard work, many low-income households struggle to afford
20 healthy foods since fresh fruits and vegetables cost more calorie-for-calorie than
21 nutritionally-poor alternatives; and,

22 WHEREAS, Research suggests that adults, particularly women, living in
23 households unable to afford healthy foods carry twice the risk of obesity and diabetes
24 and almost 40 percent higher risk of high blood pressure than adults who are able to
25 afford healthy foods; and,

1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Food Bank estimates that over 18 percent
2 of San Franciscans or over 150,000 residents struggle to feed their families; and,

3 WHEREAS, San Francisco suffers from troubling rates of obesity, Type II diabetes,
4 and heart disease. In 2005 43% of San Franciscans reported problems with being
5 overweight or obese. Currently in San Francisco County, almost 7% of adults have been
6 diagnosed with diabetes. In low-income populations, 15% of adults have been diagnosed
7 with diabetes or heart disease (CHIS 2005).

8 WHEREAS, These conditions are clustered in the very neighborhoods where
9 households are less likely to be able to afford nutritious food; and,

10 WHEREAS, In San Francisco County, food insecurity and hunger is rising at an
11 alarming rate as evidenced by a recent report issued in February 2009 by the Food
12 Security Task Force entitled “Increased Hunger: A Summary of Food Program Trends”
13 showing that there is an increase in demand for all federal and community food
14 Programs; now, therefore, be it,

15 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports
16 San Francisco’s inclusion in the California Department of Public Health’s “Healthy
17 Purchase Pilot Program”; and, be it,

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That if San Francisco is chosen to be one of the pilot counties
19 involved in the “Healthy Purchase Pilot Program”, the Human Service Agency and the
20 Department of Public Health are authorized to participate in this important program.