

1 [Supporting SB 437 and AB 772]

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3 Resolution supporting Senate Bill 437 and Assembly Bill 772, which would create the
4 California Healthy Kids Insurance Program and extend all health insurance to low income
5 children in California.

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7 WHEREAS, The most recent California Health Interview Survey data show that there
8 are an estimated 83,000 uninsured San Franciscans, approximately 1,000 of whom are
9 children and youth; and

10 WHEREAS, Uninsured residents lack a usual source of care, must navigate a
11 complex, fragmented health care delivery system and when they do seek services, their
12 ailments are often more advanced and more difficult to treat; and,

13 WHEREAS, Research shows that children with health insurance are more likely to get
14 the care they need, especially essential preventive care, and that they are healthier and
15 perform better in school; and,

16 WHEREAS, In November 1998, the voters of the City and County of San Francisco
17 passed Proposition J, which directs the City to assist the uninsured in obtaining affordable
18 health care coverage; and

19 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken the following steps to
20 expand health care coverage since the passage of Proposition J: (1) expanded health care
21 coverage to In-Home Support Services (IHSS) workers, (2) launched a pilot program to offer
22 health insurance to low-income child care providers, (3) drafted a proposed health insurance
23 coverage component to the Minimum Compensation Ordinance; and (4) created the Healthy
24 Kids Program, which expanded health insurance coverage to all San Francisco children in
25 families with incomes under 300 percent of the federal poverty level; and,

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Healthy Kids Program currently insures more than 4,000
2 previously uninsured San Francisco children; and,

3 WHEREAS, As a result of San Francisco’s Healthy Kids program, less than one
4 percent of all San Francisco children are uninsured today; and,

5 WHEREAS, By extending health insurance coverage to California children in families
6 with incomes under 300 percent of the federal poverty level, Senate Bill 437 (Escutia/Alquist)
7 and Assembly Bill 772 (Chan/Frommer) will provide an opportunity to replicate these
8 successes statewide; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports Senate Bill 437 and
10 Assembly Bill 772 and urges the passage of these pieces of legislation in the State
11 Legislature.

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