

1 [Resolution declaring November 2006 Lung Cancer Awareness Month]

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3 **Resolution declaring November 2006 Lung Cancer Awareness Month and urges public**
4 **officials and the citizens of San Francisco to observe the month with appropriate**
5 **activities and programs during this month and throughout the year.**
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7 WHEREAS, Lung Cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in both men and
8 women in California, the United States, and the world, this year killing more Americans than
9 the next six cancers combines including breast, prostate, colon, liver, kidney, and melanoma
10 cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2006, approximately 174,470 Americans will be diagnosed with lung
12 cancer, and 162,460 Americans will be lost to lung cancer, including an estimated 13,870
13 Californians; and,

14 WHEREAS, In the early stages of lung cancer, symptoms are usually not apparent.
15 However, when symptoms occur, the cancer is often advanced. Symptoms of lung cancer
16 include chronic cough, hoarseness, coughing up blood, weigh loss and loss of appetite,
17 shortness of breath fever without a known reason, wheezing, repeated bouts of bronchitis or
18 pneumonia, and chest pain; and,

19 WHEREAS, There is currently no standard screening for early detection of lung cancer
20 that greatly improves the survival rate; and,

21 WHEREAS, The majority of new cases of lung cancer each year are in former
22 smokers or persons who have never smoked; and

23 WHEREAS, Although there is a strong link between tobacco and lung cancer, there is
24 a critical need for further research to understand the complex interrelationship of genetic,
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1 molecular, and other biologic processes to explain the development of lung cancers in those
2 who have never smoked and the failure of the majority of heavy smokers to develop the
3 disease; and

4 WHEREAS, Lung cancer research has been chronically under funded in proportion to
5 its public health impact resulting in a five-year survival rate, which has remained relatively
6 unchanged over the last 30 years, while the survival rate for most other cancers has improved
7 significantly; and

8 WHEREAS, A large portion of tobacco-related funding is used for purposes other than
9 that of lung cancer research, yet lung cancer funding from both public and private sources is
10 negatively impacted by its association with smoking; and

11 WHEREAS, In order to build awareness and save lives, the Lung Cancer Alliance, a
12 national patient advocacy group for lung cancer dedicated to helping build awareness of this
13 disease, has proclaimed November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month; and

14 WHEREAS, It is only fitting and proper for the City and County of San Francisco to join
15 the nation in designating November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month so that through better
16 education and an increased attention to funding priorities, more cases of lung cancer may be
17 found in the early stage, leading to the chance of long-term survival rate as high as 85
18 percent, and more options being available for treatment of the disease at all stages; now,
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisor declares November 2006
21 Lung Cancer Awareness Month and urges public officials and the citizens of San Francisco to
22 observe the month with appropriate activities and programs during this month and throughout
23 the year.

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