

1 [Lyme Disease Awareness Month - May 2013]

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3 **Resolution declaring May 2013 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.**

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5 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a serious bacterial infection that is commonly transmitted
6 by infected ticks and is spreading everywhere in the world, including nationally, statewide and
7 locally; and

8 WHEREAS, There is an average of 33,000 new cases of Lyme disease were reported
9 in the United States 2011, the most recent year for which we have national statistics; and

10 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that the
11 reported cases of Lyme disease are only 10 percent of the actual cases that meet surveillance
12 criteria; and

13 WHEREAS, The tick that spreads Lyme disease has been found in 56 out of
14 California's 57 counties; and

15 WHEREAS, Seven San Franciscans are known to have contracted Lyme disease since
16 1995 and co-infections from being bitten by infected ticks in the City with three reported to the
17 Department of Public Health; and

18 WHEREAS, If treated immediately and appropriately, Lyme disease can usually be
19 cured; and

20 WHEREAS, If untreated or misdiagnosed, Lyme disease can cause long-term health
21 problems, including neurological disorders, memory loss, muscle and joint pain, fatigue,
22 psychological disorders and, in some rare cases, can be fatal; and

23 WHEREAS, In the State of California, ticks are present throughout the year and we
24 must take precautions to protect humans and animals from tick bites all year long; and

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1 WHEREAS, Immediately following a previous year’s introduction of a resolution
2 proclaiming May 2012 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month at the Board of Supervisors
3 meeting, a San Francisco resident who had watched the proceedings recognized his own
4 symptoms for the first time; and

5 WHEREAS, The month of May is recognized nationally and by the State of California
6 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
8 does hereby proclaim May 2013 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

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