

1 [Supporting the Rights of Immigrants to Seek Healthcare with Dignity]

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3 **Resolution supporting the rights of immigrants to seek healthcare with dignity, respect,**
4 **and without harassment.**

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6 WHEREAS, Immigrants, including naturalized citizens, those with immigration status,
7 and undocumented immigrants, as an integral part of California's society, deserve dignity,
8 respect, and due process of law; and

9 WHEREAS, Immigrants have a right to seek health care and should not be subjected
10 to fear and anxiety when caring for themselves and their loved ones in need of medical
11 attention; and

12 WHEREAS, California is home to 10.6 million immigrants, which accounts for a quarter
13 of the state's population; and

14 WHEREAS, Nearly half of the children in California have at least one immigrant parent,
15 and a little over a third of California's prime-working-age adults, ages 25 to 54, are
16 immigrants; and

17 WHEREAS, California's immigrant population comes from all over the world, leading
18 with Latin America and Asia, but also including Europe, Africa, North America, and Oceania;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, California's economy would not rank fourth in the world without the vital
21 contributions of immigrants, who make up a third of California workers; and

22 WHEREAS, Immigrants play a critical role in safeguarding the health and wellness of
23 Californians, as 35% of our health care workers, 32% of our doctors, and 37% of our
24 registered nurses are immigrants; and

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1 WHEREAS, There have already been horrifying cases of such enforcement in the
2 country, such as a 10-year-old girl with brain cancer being detained and deported while on her
3 way to the hospital for emergency medical treatment in Houston, Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, Existing state law already provides protections to immigrants seeking
5 medical care, which include: 1) the prohibition of an employer voluntarily providing consent to
6 immigration enforcement agents to enter non-public places of labor without a judicial warrant
7 (Government Code, Section 7285.1); 2) the required implementation of the Attorney General's
8 model policies, which limit assistance to immigration enforcement, at health facilities operated
9 by the state or a political subdivision thereof, and the encouraged implementation of the
10 Attorney General's model policies at all entities providing services related to physical or
11 mental health and wellness (Government Code, Section 7284.8); 3) the Confidential Medical
12 Information Act which protects an individual's medical information from unauthorized
13 disclosure; 4) the prohibition of an employer voluntarily providing employee records to an
14 immigration enforcement agent without a subpoena or judicial warrant, except for I-9 forms or
15 other documents for which a Notice of Inspection is required (Government Code, Section
16 7285.2); and

17 WHEREAS, The federal government recently rescinded previous policy guidance that
18 prohibited immigration enforcement in "sensitive areas" such as hospitals, schools, and
19 churches; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the County of San Francisco calls on the hospitals, health clinics,
21 and other health providers in this county to stand for the dignity and respect of all communities
22 they serve; the right of all to seek medical care without fear of harassment, arrest, or other
23 harmful actions; and the honoring of ethical guidelines of the medical professional to avoid
24 harm and provide care to all who need it.