

1 [Supporting the Health Service System to Establish Full Quality and Cost Transparency in the
2 Public Interest]

3 **Resolution supporting the Health Service System for participating in the establishment**
4 **of multi-payer databases that can be used to evaluate and improve the quality and cost**
5 **of care and resolving to pass legislation to establish full quality and cost transparency**
6 **in the public interest.**

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8 WHEREAS, Healthcare quality and cost data are largely controlled by providers and
9 insurance vendors, which impedes effective management of costs, reduces access to
10 comparative information on provider quality and costs, and impedes patients from making
11 informed decisions about their care; and

12 WHEREAS, Providing detailed care, quality and cost data for Health Service System
13 (HSS) analysis is necessary to develop collaborative initiatives that will improve care and
14 reduce costs; and

15 WHEREAS, Cost and quality information is essential to our Health Service System in
16 negotiating health insurance contracts based on accountability and performance; and

17 WHEREAS, Cost and quality data transparency between insurers, hospitals, doctors
18 and HSS would allow fair market competition, drive innovation and lower the cost of delivering
19 care in our local health care industry; and

20 WHEREAS, Access to cost and quality data, with appropriate patient privacy
21 safeguards, would enable HSS, as the largest Bay Area purchaser of health care, to make
22 sound business decisions, in support of the most effective quality and cost innovations; and

23 WHEREAS, Accountable care based on quality and cost transparency should be
24 required of all contracted insurance vendors and providers servicing HSS members and their
25 families; and

1 WHEREAS, Two data-driven Accountable Care Organizations formed by HSS and
2 Blue Shield in San Francisco in 2011 demonstrate that significant improvements in improving
3 cost and quality are achievable in the Bay Area healthcare market; and

4 WHEREAS, Improving patient access to clearly presented cost and quality data is
5 highly likely to result in better outcomes for the employees, retirees and dependents covered
6 under HSS administered health plans; and

7 WHEREAS, The mission of the Health Service System of the City & County of San
8 Francisco is preserving and improving sustainable, quality health benefits and to enhancing
9 the well-being of employees, retirees and their families; and

10 WHEREAS, The Health Service System provides health benefit programs for over
11 108,000 public employees, retirees and dependents, with the large majority residing in seven
12 Bay Area counties; and

13 WHEREAS, The Health Service System, under the guidance of the Health Service
14 Board, has worked diligently for many years with the goal of engaging in fair and forthcoming
15 business relationships with local insurers and providers, but recognizes that much remains to
16 be done to ensure transparency, quality, competition and innovation; and

17 WHEREAS, This Health Service System healthcare data transparency initiative is
18 publically supported by the San Francisco Labor Council's Executive Committee, the San
19 Francisco Public Employees Committee, SEIU Local 1021, and the Health Service Board of
20 the City & County of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That, pursuant to the foregoing, the Board of Supervisors supports and
22 commends HSS for seeking, supporting and participating in the establishment of multi-payer
23 databases, including but not limited to claims data, providing employers, purchasers, patients,
24 insurers, hospitals, doctors, researchers and other stakeholders access to comprehensive
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1 quality and outcome metrics and associated cost data, that can be used to evaluate and
2 improve the quality and cost of care; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports and commends the
4 Health Service Board as they continue and expand collaboration with public employers, other
5 healthcare purchasers, unions, health plans, providers, and other major stakeholders in
6 California; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors will work to pass legislation to
8 establish full quality and cost transparency in the public interest.

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