[International Overdose Awareness Day - August 31, 2023]

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Resolution recognizing August 31, 2023, as an International Overdose Awareness Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is a day for communities to remember those who have lost their lives to overdose and renew commitments to ending the overdose epidemic that is present in communities around the world; and

WHEREAS, The National Institute on Drug Abuse reported that overdose deaths in the United States have been steadily increasing since 1999; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that roughly 110,000 people lost lives to drug overdose in 2022; and

WHEREAS, The CDC reported that for every drug overdose that results in death, there are many more nonfatal overdoses, which also contribute to the increasing trauma; and

WHEREAS, In San Francisco, there were 647 confirmed accidental drug overdose deaths in 2022, averaging almost two deaths per day; and

WHEREAS, Between January and June of 2023, there have already been 406 accidental drug overdoses confirmed by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in San Francisco, which is 101 accidental overdose deaths more than the 305 that occurred during the first half of 2022; and

WHEREAS, The OCME report for released for June 2023, also includes previously unavailable data which reveals that the vast majority of people who were housed and died of accidental overdose were San Francisco residents; and

WHEREAS, Among the people who have died to overdose in 2023, 280 were determined to have had a fixed address, and 265, or 95%, of them were San Francisco residents; and

WHEREAS, The overdose epidemic has been made worse by the introduction of new drugs including fentanyl and xylazine, also referred to as "trang"; and

WHEREAS, In order to address the ongoing overdose crisis, it is recommended that the City of San Francisco provide a comprehensive continuum of care for people who use drugs that is grounded in public health and includes both harm reduction services and abstinence-based programs; and

WHEREAS, It is recommended that the City of San Francisco expand nondiscriminatory access to medication for substance use disorder treatment and culturally affirming, voluntary treatment while providing fact-based drug education; and

WHEREAS, It is important to fund peer-led programs and tenant-led overdose navigation in supportive housing as well as scaling up drug sobering centers and drug adulterant testing; and

WHEREAS, It is also important to provide support and resources for syringe service programs and implement harm reduction interventions such as overdose prevention centers and safer supply; and

WHEREAS, This chronic illness needs to be addressed as the health crisis that it is; and

WHEREAS, Dignity and self-worth are an important part of self-care and when people are given an opportunity to make safer choices, they will most often do so; and

WHEREAS, Countless San Franciscans have been touched by the grave impacts of the overdose epidemic in our communities as overdose does not discriminate based upon age, gender, city or country; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to addressing the epidemic of drug overdoses in the city; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes and designates August 31, 2023, as International Overdose Awareness Day in the City and County of San Francisco; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes that every individual has unique needs and circumstances that require a wide range of interventions to prevent death by overdose and therefore urges a rapid implementation of the full spectrum of interventions to address the Overdose Crisis as funded in this year's budget, including opening wellness centers that will aim to include overdose prevention centers, abstinence-based treatment services, sober living facilities, dual diagnosis services, detox facilities, and other life-saving services that will support people through the varying stages of their journey to recovery.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

230875

Date Passed: September 12, 2023

Resolution recognizing August 31, 2023, as an International Overdose Awareness Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

September 05, 2023 Board of Supervisors - CONTINUED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

September 12, 2023 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

September 12, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 230875

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 9/12/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor 09/21/2023

**Date Approved** 

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board 09/21/2023

Date