

1 [Supporting AB 518]

2 SUPPORTING AB 518 TO AUTHORIZE CITIES AND COUNTIES TO DEVELOP CLEAN  
3 NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROJECTS AND TO AUTHORIZE PROJECT  
4 PHARMACISTS, PHYSICIANS, AND OTHERS TO FURNISH HYPODERMIC NEEDLES  
5 AND SYRINGES WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION OR PERMIT.

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7 WHEREAS, The almost two decade-long acquired immune deficiency syndrome  
8 (AIDS) pandemic, and the more recent spread of blood-borne hepatitis pose an  
9 unprecedented public health crisis in California; and,

10 WHEREAS, Injection drug users are the second largest group at risk of becoming  
11 infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and developing AIDS; and,

12 WHEREAS, Injection drug users are the primary source of heterosexual, female, and  
13 perinatal transmission in California, the United States, and Europe; and,

14 WHEREAS, Studies indicate that the lack of sterile needles available on the street, and  
15 the existence of laws restricting needle availability promote needle sharing, and consequently  
16 the spread of HIV among injections drug users; and,

17 WHEREAS, The United States Secretary of Health and Human Services announced  
18 on April 20, 1998 that "needle exchange programs can be an effective part of a  
19 comprehensive strategy to reduce the incidence of HIV transmission and do not encourage  
20 the use of illegal drugs"; and,

21 WHEREAS, California is one of 10 states that criminalizes the furnishing, possession,  
22 or use of hypodermic needles or syringes without a prescription; and,

23 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
24 declares a weekly state of emergency to permit its needle exchange program under the  
25 Department of Public Health; now, therefore, be it

SUPERVISORS

\*\*GAVIN NEWSOM, LESLIE KATZ\*\*, BIERMAN, LENO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1           RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports the passage and  
2 adoption of AB 518, authorizing cities and counties to develop clean needle and syringe  
3 exchange projects and to authorize pharmacists, physicians, and certain persons under those  
4 projects to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes without a prescription or permit.  
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**\*\*GAVIN NEWSOM, LESLIE KATZ\*\***  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



# City and County of San Francisco

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

## Tails

### Resolution

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**File Number:** 990548

**Date Passed:**

Resolution supporting AB 518 to authorize cities and counties to develop clean needle and syringe exchange projects and to authorize project pharmacists, physicians, and others to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes without a prescription or permit.

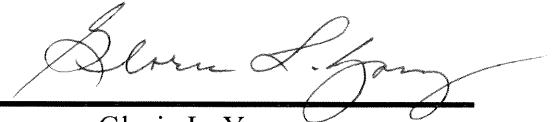
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March 29, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee

File No. 990548

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 29, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



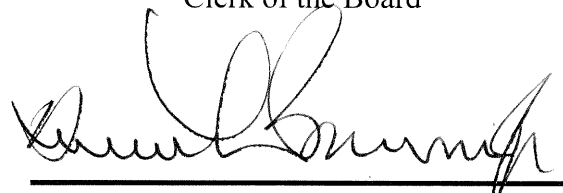
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Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

APR - 9 1999

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Date Approved



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Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

File No. 990548 continued...