

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 255 (Haney) - The Supportive-Recovery
2 Residence Program]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 255, introduced by Assembly**
4 **Member Matt Haney, The Supportive-Recovery Residence Program, to enable state**
5 **investment and establish a certification process for such programs.**
6

7 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1380, also known as the Housing First Act, was passed by
8 California Legislature in 2016 to require all housing programs to adopt policies centered
9 around the goal of removing barriers to providing housing for anyone experiencing
10 homelessness, connecting unhoused individuals to a safe and permanent place to live; and

11 WHEREAS, There are thousands of people experiencing homelessness that desire to
12 live in settings free of illicit drugs but are unable to because it is inaccessible, limited, and
13 unsupported by state investment; and

14 WHEREAS, The lack of accessible recovery-safe living facilities forces people to live in
15 housing that isn't suited to support individuals attempting to stay on the path to recovery,
16 exacerbating substance abuse, mental health issues, and return to homelessness; and

17 WHEREAS, Supportive-recovery-residences (SRRs) support individuals' journeys as
18 those in recovery are at higher risk of relapsing, overdosing, or returning to homelessness
19 when surrounded by substances in their homes; and

20 WHEREAS, The potency, prevalence, and price of Fentanyl increases the risk of
21 relapse and has contributed to making Fentanyl responsible for the overwhelming number of
22 overdose fatalities in San Francisco; and

23 WHEREAS, If enacted, Assembly Bill No. 255 would ensure that an individual relapsing
24 would not be a cause for eviction but instead would provide these individuals with relapse
25

1 recovery assistance through detoxification programs and intensive peer-to-peer support so
2 that they can resume their recovery from addiction; and

3 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 255 would allow participants to be placed in alternate
4 housing programs practicing harm-reduction principles should they be disruptive to the
5 surrounding community's recovery or are no longer interested in a recovery model housing
6 program and requires SRRs to continue to house the tenant until they are successfully
7 rehoused; and

8 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 255 allows tenants to apply to reenter the drug free
9 housing program if they demonstrate a renewed commitment to living in a community focused
10 around recovery principles with a focus on abstinence from illicit drugs; and

11 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 255 promotes long-term housing stability by aligning
12 with participants' prioritization of sustained recovery and sobriety from substance use, thus
13 aiming to reduce returns to homelessness caused by relapse; and

14 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 255 expands the core components of the Housing First
15 Act, enabling state investment in housing programs that support recovery from addiction and
16 ensuring that any unhoused individuals, including those embracing sobriety, do not face
17 barriers to achieving housing;

18 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 255 would require DHCS to adopt the most recent
19 standards approved by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR), the
20 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and establish a certification
21 program; and now therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
23 hereby endorses Assembly Bill No. 255; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit
25 copies of this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro Tempore Mike McGuire,

1 Speaker of the State Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member
2 Matt Haney, Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, as a demonstration of the Board's support
3 for Assembly Bill No. 255
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25