

1 [Urging the Elimination of the Blood Donation Ban by Gay and Bisexual Men]

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3 **Resolution urging the United States Food and Drug Administration to end any federal**  
4 **bans on blood donation by gay and bisexual men.**

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6 WHEREAS, In 1983 the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) instituted a policy to ban  
7 blood donations by any man who has had sex with another man at least one time since 1977;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, In December 2015, the FDA amended the policy to ban donations from  
10 any man who has had sex with another man at least once within the last year; and

11 WHEREAS, On Sunday, June 12, 2016, a gunman entered an LGBT nightclub in  
12 Orlando and murdered 49 people and wounded another 53 people; and

13 WHEREAS, This attack has caused great pain and suffering in the LGBT community,  
14 but has also strengthened solidarity in the community; and

15 WHEREAS, Members of the LGBT community who wished to donate blood to help the  
16 survivors of this tragic attack were prohibited from doing so by FDA's current blood donation  
17 ban policies; and

18 WHEREAS, While a gay or bisexual man cannot donate blood within 12 months of  
19 having sex with another man, he experiences no comparable limitation in buying a gun; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2001, Italy switched to individual risk assessments to screen blood  
21 donors, and has not had any major increase in HIV infections since; and

22 WHEREAS, A 2010 study by the University California at Los Angeles found that lifting  
23 the 12 month ban would add another 300,000 pints of blood per year; and

24 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association, the Human Rights Campaign, the  
25 AIDS Research Institute at UCSF, the American Association of Blood Banks, and the National

1 Gay Blood Drives are just a few of the organizations that support lifting the FDA prohibitions  
2 on blood donations; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2010 and 2014, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed  
4 resolutions calling for the FDA to revise their longstanding prohibition on gay men donating  
5 blood; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls upon the United States  
7 Food and Drug Administration to end federal policy that prohibits gay and bisexual men from  
8 making blood donations.

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