

1 [Urging the Department of Public Health and Health Commission to Name a Facility After the
2 Late Health Commissioner David J. Sanchez, Jr., PhD]

3 **Resolution urging the Department of Public Health (DPH) Director of Health and the**
4 **Health Commission to work with the Board of Supervisors to name or rename a DPH**
5 **facility after the late David J. Sanchez, Jr., PHD in honor of his lifelong leadership and**
6 **contributions to vulnerable residents of the City and County of San Francisco.**

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8 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez served on the San Francisco Health Commission for 22
9 years, having been appointed by Mayor Willie Brown in 1997 and served through 2019; and

10 WHEREAS, During his long tenure on the Health Commission, he served as Health
11 Commission Vice President, Chair of the Laguna Honda Hospital Joint Conference
12 Committee, and Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee; he also served as a member
13 of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Joint Conference Committee and
14 represented the Health Commission on the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation; and

15 WHEREAS, His fellow commissioners recognized Dr. Sanchez’s commitment and
16 presence at each commission meeting, describing him as always providing “enthusiastic
17 support for the San Francisco Department of Public Health with particular interest around
18 issues related to diversity, seniors, and veterans;” and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez was a dedicated advocate and long standing community
20 leader in San Francisco for decades before joining the Health Commission, having served as
21 President of the Police Commission and President of the Board of Education; he was also a
22 member of the Community College Board, the San Francisco Foundation Board of Directors,
23 and the California Commission on Aging; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez devoted much of his professional career as a University of
25 California at San Francisco professor and a valued member of the administration, helping to

1 connect the San Francisco General Hospital campus to the community through development
2 of vital programs such as the Child and Adolescent Support Advocacy and Resource Center
3 (CASARC), Urban Health Program, and the Latino Assessment Center; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez’s contributions and well-established commitment to public
5 service were recognized and honored by the Health Commission upon his resignation of the
6 commission, after his 22 years of service, in 2019; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez was a beloved member and leader in the Latino community,
8 advocating for increased access to health, resources, and opportunities for the Latino
9 community and other vulnerable communities throughout his leadership, including as a
10 member of the Board of Directors for both Centro Latino and Mission Language Vocational
11 School (MLVS), well recognized Latino-serving, community anchor organizations; and

12 WHEREAS, This action of naming a building after a lifelong public servant
13 representative of the Latino community, who was dedicated to equity, diversity and improved
14 health access and outcomes for the most vulnerable residents in San Francisco; and

15 WHEREAS, We recognize that representation matters and placemaking is critical to
16 honor and preserve the history and ongoing contributions of Latino leaders to the legacy that
17 and fabric of the great city of San Francisco, especially critical during this time when the
18 Latino community continues to face displacement from the city and neighborhood that Dr.
19 Sanchez loved and demonstrated unwavering commitment to and who have been particularly
20 impacted by exacerbated health and economic disparities of the pandemic; and

21 WHEREAS, The San Francisco City Charter designates authority to naming or
22 renaming DPH facilities to the Department of Public Health (DPH) Director of Health, the
23 Health Commission, and the Board of Supervisors; and

24 WHEREAS, According to the Health Commission’s most recent policy made effective
25 on August 4, 2015 on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 220134, which

1 is hereby declared to be a part of this Resolution as set forth herein, designated the Director
2 of Health as the sole DPH employee who has authority to recommend or approve naming or
3 renaming requests for any portion of DPH facilities, in accordance with this policy; and

4 WHEREAS, The policy states that the Health Commission will review requests and
5 recommendations for naming or renaming of facilities under DPH ownership or management,
6 and will forward to the Board of Supervisors its recommendations regarding naming or
7 renaming requests for DPH non-hospital facilities; for which the Board of Supervisors retains
8 authority to name these types of buildings; and

9 WHEREAS, This request to name a DPH facility is not associated with any private gift
10 or monetary donation; the request to name a facility after Dr. David J. Sanchez, Jr. is purely in
11 honor of his many years of dedicated service, his impactful contributions to the residents of
12 the City and County of San Francisco, the legacy he represents for the Latino Community,
13 and the importance of recognizing and preserving the history of Latinos in San Francisco; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. David J. Sanchez, Jr. was a native San Franciscan and proud resident
15 of the Mission District; and

16 WHEREAS, He passed away peacefully in San Francisco on December 12, 2020, at
17 the age of 81, leaving a legacy of public service and commitment to seniors, veterans,
18 equitable health access, and the Latino community; be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors joins the San Francisco Health
20 Commission in honoring Dr. David J. Sanchez, Jr. for his many years of dedicated public
21 service to the City and County of San Francisco; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors strongly urges DPH and the
23 Health Commission to consider naming a building under their ownership or management,
24 working with the Board of Supervisors and community stakeholders on identifying a building
25 befitting of Dr. Sanchez's legacy of service and the community he represented; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
2 Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Director of DPH and the Health
3 Commission; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that DPH provide a
5 written response within sixty (60) days of the passage of this Resolution including a list of
6 facilities under their ownership or management that can be named/renamed after David J.
7 Sanchez, Jr., PhD.

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