

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2115 (Haney) - Enhancing Methadone
Treatment Access]

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3 **Resolution urging support of California State Assembly Bill No. 2115: Enhancing**
4 **Methadone Treatment Access, introduced by Assembly Member Matt Haney, and**
5 **urging its passage and implementation.**

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7 WHEREAS, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for overdose deaths in San
8 Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, Residents of San Francisco face a dire overdose crisis, with Black/African
10 American individuals experiencing a four-fold increased rate of fatal overdose compared to
11 their non-Hispanic white counterparts; and

12 WHEREAS, California is grappling with a significant public health epidemic marked by
13 the doubling of preventable drug-related overdose deaths since 2017, with nearly 6,000
14 fatalities in 2021 attributed to opioid-related overdoses; and

15 WHEREAS, Expanding access to methadone treatment has been proven to reduce
16 overdose mortality, enhance treatment engagement, and mitigate harm associated with drug
17 use; and

18 WHEREAS, Individuals grappling with opioid use disorder (OUD) confront numerous
19 obstacles in accessing methadone treatment, as current California law does not fully align
20 with new federal rules; and

21 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 2115 (Haney) seeks to rectify this disparity by syncing state
22 law with federal regulations, enabling clinics to dispense 72 hours of methadone while
23 referring individuals to methadone clinics; and

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1 WHEREAS, With increased access to methadone treatment, the City and County of
2 San Francisco and Department of Public Health will be more equipped to address the needs
3 of individuals suffering from opioid addiction; and

4 WHEREAS, In expanding access to methadone treatment, individuals struggling with
5 opioid addiction will have greater support in managing cravings and withdrawal symptoms,
6 thereby reducing the likelihood of relapse and associated overdose incidents; and

7 WHEREAS, This adjustment would foster timely and efficient referrals—especially on
8 evenings and weekends—to longer-term treatment options available at methadone clinics, so
9 that patients can experience smoother continuity of care, improving odds that they have
10 access to comprehensive treatment services essential for sustained recovery; and

11 WHEREAS, The proposed modification addresses immediate barriers to treatment
12 access while also laying the groundwork for improved treatment outcomes and public health
13 outcomes; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
15 supports Assembly Bill 2115 (Haney), which increases access to methadone by aligning state
16 law with federal rules; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State
18 Legislature to pass AB 2115 unamended and for Governor Gavin Newsom to sign AB 2115
19 into law; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
21 to send a copy of this Resolution upon final passage to the offices of San Francisco’s State
22 Legislative delegation, the City Lobbyist, and the Governor’s Office.