

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1909 (Gonzalez) - Healing Arts Licensees:  
2 Virginitiy Examinations or Tests]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1909, authored by Assembly**  
4 **Member Lorena Gonzalez, which would ban virginity examinations or tests and**  
5 **penalize any medical practitioner who performs or supervises these medically**  
6 **meritless pelvic exams.**

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8 WHEREAS, In 2018, the United Nations Human Rights Office, United Nations Women  
9 and the World Health Organization, and the World Health Organization issued a joint,  
10 interagency call for a global ban on so-called "virginity testing" in an effort to eliminate this  
11 medically unnecessary and painful practice that contributes to the violence that girls and  
12 women continue to endure in the United States and abroad; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2018, the United Nations Human Rights Office, United Nations Women  
14 and the World Health Organization, and the World Health Organization released an  
15 interagency statement calling "virginity testing" a violation of a girl's and woman's human  
16 rights; and

17 WHEREAS, "Virginity" testing, also referred to as hymen, "two-finger", or per vaginal  
18 examination, is currently not banned under, both, federal or California law; and

19 WHEREAS, Per the 1964 World Medical Association's Declaration of Helsinki, it is the  
20 physician's responsibility to protect the health of the people and those physician's performing  
21 these unsound and unnecessary medical exams are violating their ethical principle of doing  
22 no harm; and

23 WHEREAS, "Virginity testing" violates a girl's and a woman's right to be protected from  
24 sex discrimination; and

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1           WHEREAS, "Virginity testing" violates a girl's or woman's rights to physical integrity  
2 and privacy; and

3           WHEREAS, In November of 2019, New York State Assembly Member Michaelle  
4 Solages introduced legislation to ban "virginity testing" in New York stating that it is used to  
5 control girls and women; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
7 supports AB 1909; and, be it

8           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
9 Francisco acknowledges that "virginity testing" is a degrading form of sexual violence that is  
10 scientifically meritless and used to control, intimidate, and silence girls and women in the  
11 United States and abroad; and, be it

12           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall notify  
13 members from Congress from San Francisco and the United States Senators from California  
14 with a request to take all action necessary to achieve the objectives of this Resolution; and,  
15 be, it

16           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
17 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the State  
18 Legislature and City Lobbyist upon passage.

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