

1 [2004 Prevent Childhood Exposure to Violence Month.]

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3 **Resolution ratifying that the Board of Supervisors declares the month of February 2004**
4 **as “Prevent Childhood Exposure to Violence Month” in the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, Research conducted nationally and by the UCSF Child Trauma Research
8 Project in San Francisco has clearly linked childhood exposure to violence to a variety of
9 negative effects, including but not limited to anxiety, post-traumatic stress, depression, anger,
10 and temperament problems; and,

11 WHEREAS, Research has also shown that childhood exposure to violence is linked to
12 serious problems which can occur in adolescence and adulthood, including but not limited to
13 lower cognitive functioning, a positive attitude toward violence, low self-esteem, and is also a
14 significant factor in predicting violent behavior; and,

15 WHEREAS, In 2000, the U.S. Department of Justice awarded the City and County of
16 San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families a cooperative agreement
17 for the SafeStart Initiative to prevent and reduce children’s exposure to violence in San
18 Francisco; and,

19 WHEREAS, As one result of the cooperative agreement, the San Francisco SafeStart
20 Initiative has sponsored original research which shows that approximately 10,000 children are
21 exposed to violence in their own homes every year in San Francisco, of which 6,200 are
22 children age six or younger, far exceeding all previous estimates; and,

23 WHEREAS, As another result of the cooperative agreement, the San Francisco
24 SafeStart Initiative, together with U.S. Department of Justice, California Attorney General’s
25 Office, San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families, San Francisco

1 Department of Public Health, San Francisco Police Department, First 5 San Francisco, and
2 Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, is sponsoring a public education campaign to prevent
3 children’s exposure to violence in San Francisco by raising community awareness about the
4 harm caused to children by exposure to violence; and

5 WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco has been selected as host of the
6 national meeting of twelve cities and counties participating in the U.S. Department of Justice
7 Safe Start Initiative on February 4, 5, and 6, 2004; and, now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
9 does hereby ratify the month of February 2004 as “Prevent Childhood Exposure to Violence
10 Month” in the City and County of San Francisco.

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