

1 [Recognizing September 22, 2010, as “Please Don’t Jump” Day to Promote Suicide
2 Prevention]

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4 **Resolution recognizing September 22, 2010, as “Please Don’t Jump” Day and urging**
5 **the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District staff and Board of**
6 **Directors to continue its efforts to expeditiously construct a suicide barrier on the**
7 **Golden Gate Bridge.**

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9 WHEREAS, 85,000 Californians make suicide attempts each year, and nine
10 Californians die each day from suicide, and 30 San Francisco Bay Area residents jump off the
11 Golden Gate Bridge each year; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 1,300 people have jumped to their deaths since the bridge
13 opened in 1937; and

14 WHEREAS, When people die by suicide at the Golden Gate Bridge it takes an
15 enormous toll on surviving families, friends and the community, including rescue workers,
16 hospital staff, coroners and police officers; and

17 WHEREAS, After more than 70 years of debate and more than 1,300 lives lost, it is
18 time to build a suicide prevention barrier to prevent these deaths; and

19 WHEREAS, The founders of 1-800-SUICIDE, PostSecret, Bridge Rail Foundation and
20 the band Blue October, have created the “Please Don’t Jump” suicide prevention event to
21 raise awareness about the public health problem and solutions that are available to everyone
22 in San Francisco and the San Francisco Bay Area; and

23 WHEREAS, Over 100,000 Californians and supporters of the Please Don’t Jump site
24 have sent letters of support that a barrier be built on the Golden Gate Bridge to send a
25 message to all Californians, and to all peoples of the world, that as a people, a State and a

1 nation, we will do all in our power to prevent suicide on this national landmark and
2 international icon; and

3 WHEREAS, A barrier would reduce suicides by giving individuals something they
4 desperately need – time; time to change their minds, time for someone to intervene and time
5 to seek help; and

6 WHEREAS, In a recent study, 515 individuals who were thwarted from attempting
7 suicide at the Golden Gate Bridge only six percent of these individuals later died by suicide.

8 WHEREAS, In recognition that an effective barrier would reduce suicides and the
9 subsequent media coverage, thus helping to remove the allure of the Golden Gate Bridge as
10 suicide magnet while effectively reducing the stigma attached to suicide; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12 recognize September 22, 2010 as “Please Don’t Jump” Day to raise awareness about suicide
13 prevention and the public health solutions; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
15 Francisco urges the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District staff and Board
16 of Directors to continue its efforts to expeditiously construct a suicide barrier on the Golden
17 Gate Bridge; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
19 the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of this resolution to the office of Golden Gate Bridge,
20 Highway and Transportation District.

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