

1 [Resolution urging the Mayor to release funds to the Department of Public Health]

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3 **Resolution urging the Mayor to release funding for the Department of Public**
4 **Health to fund Public Health Nurses, Senior Medical Social Workers, and a Health**
5 **Care Billing Clerk in FY 04-05.**

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7 WHEREAS, The Mayor's Office restricted funding in the Department of Public
8 Health's budget in FY 04-05 in order to generate General Fund savings after the defeat
9 of Proposition J (1/4% sales tax) and Proposition K (temporary 1/10th of 1% gross
10 receipts business taxes); and,

11 WHEREAS, Some of these restricted funds were targeted to providing direct
12 health care services to chronically ill San Franciscans; and,

13 WHEREAS, The reduction to the budget of the Department of Public Health
14 resulted in de-funding 11.0 full time equivalent Public Health Nurses, 6.8 full time
15 equivalent Senior Medical Social Workers, and one full time equivalent Health Care
16 Billing Clerk; and,

17 WHEREAS, The funds to support these positions were moved into a
18 contingency reserve that is unavailable to the Department of Public Health; and,

19 WHEREAS, The positions that were de-funded are responsible for providing
20 critical health, social service and billing services for chronically ill patients of San
21 Francisco; and,

22 WHEREAS, The de-funded positions resulted in the elimination of the only city-
23 wide program that provides skilled nurses and nursing care for at home patients; and,

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1 WHEREAS, The elimination of the program resulted in a loss for elderly,
2 disabled and terminally ill patients to have their long term health care needs met; and
3 that the Board of Supervisors wishes to reinstate; now therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to release the
5 funding needed to allow the Department of Public Health to fund the positions and to
6 reinstate the aforementioned public health services to the community; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to
8 prioritize long term chronic health care for at home patients in fiscal year 2005-2006.

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