

1 [Hepatitis B Screening Goal.]

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3 **Resolution establishing the goal of universal Hepatitis B screening and vaccination for**
4 **Asian and Pacific Islander residents of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, residents of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage comprise 34 percent of the
7 population of the City and County of San Francisco; and

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9 WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islanders are facing a health care crisis from Hepatitis B
10 infections and liver cancer as follows:

11 a.) One out of 10 APIs in San Francisco has Chronic Hepatitis B

12 b.) 80% of liver cancer is caused by Hepatitis B

13 c.) 1 in 4 APIs living with Chronic Hepatitis B will die from liver disease or liver cancer

14 d.) Due to lack of symptoms, awareness and testing, most APIs are unaware of their
15 infections

16 e.) APIs are 100 times more likely to have Chronic Hepatitis B than Whites (1 out of 10
17 for Asians, 1 out 1000 for Whites)

18 f.) APIs have the highest rates of liver cancer for any racial/ethnic group

19 g.) The greatest health disparity between Asian Americans and Caucasian Americans
20 is liver cancer

21 h.) Up to 23,000 women in the United States who give birth each year have chronic
22 HBV infection, and 70% of them are API.

23 i.) Liver cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death in Asian men living
24 in the US

25 j.) Over half of chronically infected HBV Americans are API; and

1 WHEREAS, the ramifications of this health care crisis could have dire consequences
2 for the entire City and County of San Francisco as follows:

- 3 a.) 6,000 APIs in San Francisco are projected to die from liver disease and cancer
- 4 brought on by Hepatitis B
- 5 b.) The cost of liver transplants is more than \$200,000 per patient
- 6 c.) Liver cancer usually develops between ages 35 and 65, when people are maximally
- 7 productive, with family responsibilities
- 8 d.) It could cost San Francisco \$700 million in medical and work loss costs for HBV-
- 9 related conditions; and

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11 WHEREAS, the health care crisis posed by Hepatitis B is largely preventable as
12 follows:

- 13 a.) 70% to 80% of all liver cancers in Asians can be prevented by a Hep B vaccination
- 14 program
- 15 b.) Hepatitis B is a vaccine-preventable disease
- 16 c.) Hepatitis B related Liver Cancer is a vaccine-preventable cancer
- 17 d.) The Hepatitis B vaccine was declared the first anti-cancer vaccine
- 18 e.) Hepatitis B vaccine is safe and has been given to over 500 million people in the
- 19 world; and

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21 WHEREAS, The California Liver Cancer Prevention Plan calls for all Asians in the state
22 to be tested and vaccinated by the year 2010; and

1 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health has been working actively
2 to educate, screen and vaccinate San Franciscans to protect residents and the city from
3 Hepatitis B and its related illnesses; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Asian Liver Center at Stanford University and the AsianWeek
6 Foundation are working with a network of San Francisco’s community and healthcare
7 organizations to launch a citywide campaign entitled “SAN FRANCISCO: FREE OF
8 HEPATITIS B – Making San Francisco The First City in America to screen/vaccinate all
9 Asian/Pacific Islanders for Hepatitis B (HBV)”; now therefore be it
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11 RESOLVED, That it is the goal of the City and County of San Francisco to be the first
12 city in America to screen and vaccinate all Asian and Pacific Islander residents for Hepatitis B,
13 setting a model that can be implemented throughout the state of California and the entire
14 nation; and be it
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16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the
17 City and County of San Francisco is urged to support and work with the SAN FRANCISCO:
18 FREE OF HEPATITIS B campaign to achieve this goal; and be it
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20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the SF Health Commission is urged to adopt a resolution
21 supporting this goal and the SAN FRANCISCO: FREE OF HEPATITIS B campaign.
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