

1 [Binational Health Week]

2 **Resolution declaring October 11 to 18, 2004 as Binational Health Week and urges the**
3 **people of San Francisco County to join the people of Mexico and all Californians of**
4 **Mexican origin in observing and participating Binational Health Week**
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6 WHEREAS, The Secretariat of Health and the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of the
7 United Mexican States, the California State Department of Health Services, the Health
8 Commission of the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME), the United States-Mexico Border
9 Health Commission, and the University of California, California-Mexico Health Initiative
10 (CMHI), have recognized the necessity of improving access to health services to migrant and
11 immigrant workers and their families in the State of California; and

12 WHEREAS, Migrants laborers and immigrants of Mexican origin and their families
13 have limited access to health care; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the 2000 United States Census, of the 8.45 million people
15 of Mexican origin living in California, 3.7 million were born in Mexico; and

16 WHEREAS, Seventy-seven percent (77%) of Latinos in California are of Mexican
17 origin and of the total population of Mexican immigrants living in the United States, forty-four
18 percent (45%) of the in are in California; and

19 WHEREAS, Ninety-one percent (91%) of California's hired agricultural workers were
20 born in Mexico and improving the health of mobile populations requires multiple approaches in
21 service design, delivery, funding priorities, and most fundamentally, requires strong binational
22 commitment; and

23 WHEREAS, In October 2001, 2002, and 2003, the California-Mexico Health Initiative
24 (CMHI), a program of the California Policy Research Center, the University of California Office
25 of the President and partnering organizations convened the first three Binational Health
Weeks, an unprecedented effort overseen by multi-agency task forces, which conducted
health promotion activities involving over 500 of community-based organizations from 22
California counties and 8 Mexican states; and

1 WHEREAS, Over 1,000 people participated in planning and implementing activities,
2 and over 70,000 people received direct health care services during the 2003 Binational Health
3 Week; and

4 WHEREAS, Binational Health Week reflects coordinated efforts between California
5 and Mexico to improve the quality of life of immigrant families by expanding their access to
6 health care, increasing their health insurance coverage, and reducing their unmet health
7 needs; and

8 WHEREAS, the California-Mexico Health Initiative (CMHI) operates in California, and
9 in the states of origin of workers in Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, Binational Health Week is a bilateral collaborative effort between CMHI
11 and the Mexican Secretary of Health (SSA) and Foreign Affairs (SRE), with the active
12 participation of state and local organizations. In California, the Department of Health Services
13 (DHS), border-health organizations, Mexican consulates, the Latino Legislative Caucus,
14 community clinics and community-based organizations endorse this effort; and

15 WHEREAS, The objective of Binational Health Week is to generate a dynamic
16 dialogue between California and Mexico representatives, and the CMHI vision is that "the
17 health of California is the health of its immigrants"; and

18 WHEREAS, California and Mexico share a population, and they need to share
19 common strategies to address this population's health needs; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco County Board of Supervisors declare October
21 11 to 18, 2004 as Binational Health Week and urges the people of San Francisco County to
22 join the people of Mexico and all Californians of Mexican origin in observing and participating
23 Binational Health Week.
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