

1 [Full-funding for Wages Plus Program in FY 04/05 and FY 06/07]

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3 **Resolution urging Mayor to fully fund the Wages Plus Program to ensure that eligible**
4 **child care providers who have sought approved training and educational units can**
5 **receive wage increases in FY 04/05 and FY 05/06 as prescribed by the program.**

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7 WHEREAS, High quality child care is essential for ensuring the healthy physical, social,
8 emotional, and mental development of children 0 to 5 years old; and

9 WHEREAS, Child care services are essential for working families ensuring parents and
10 guardians have safe and developmentally appropriate places to care for their children during
11 the working hours, and

12 WHEREAS, Despite numerous dedicated, caring and compassionate child care
13 providers, the child care field has been a traditionally under-funded, low salary field often at
14 risk of instability, inconsistency and limited opportunities for on-going training within the work
15 force; and

16 WHEREAS, This instability can lessen the experience of children receiving child care
17 services; and

18 WHEREAS, The Wages Plus Program was originally designed in for the Fiscal Year
19 99/00 to respond to this instability and to ensure that child care providers could provide the
20 highest level of care with higher remuneration and consistency; and

21 WHEREAS, Since 1999, the Wages Plus Program has achieved enormous success
22 enrolling and ensuring child care training for hundreds of providers in the San Francisco child
23 care field where turnover has declined notably and enhancing the quality of child care; and,

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1 WHEREAS, In 2004, the Board of Supervisors contributed \$248,000 appropriation to fill
2 a funding deficit and ensure the program could fulfill its objective of providing a scheduled 25
3 cent wage increase for program enrollees; and

4 WHEREAS, In the current Fiscal Year (FY 05/06), the Wages Plus Program is
5 experiencing unanticipated increases in program and employment costs;

6 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Services (DHS) used the \$248,000
7 appropriation that was intended for the 25 cent wages increase to cover the DHS unanticipated
8 program and employment costs; and

9 WHEREAS, Enrollees in the program have not received their FY 04/05 scheduled
10 wage increases as intended by the Board of Supervisors' appropriation; and

11 WHEREAS, Heretofore, in its planning for the next Fiscal Year 05/06, the DHS has not
12 budgeted the Wages Plus Program to provide for the 25 cent wage; and

13 WHEREAS, The full funding for Wages Plus Program including the 25 cent wage
14 increase in the current Fiscal Year and the next Fiscal Year (FY 05/06) can be fully funded if
15 the DHS made it a policy priority: now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to ensure that the DHS
17 fully fund the Wages Plus Program as intended in the program design with the scheduled
18 wage increases intended for the current Fiscal Year 04/05 and the next Fiscal Year 05/06.

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