

1 [Supporting an initiative for Asthma Training and posting of Asthma Emergency Protocols at
2 City-Funded Child Care Facilities.]

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4 **Resolution to support an Initiative for Asthma Training and Posting of Asthma**
5 **Emergency Protocols at City-Funded Childcare Facilities.**

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7 WHEREAS, Asthma Relief for Kids (project of Parent Voices) and the American Lung
8 Association of San Francisco & San Mateo Counties have come together to respond to the
9 growing epidemic of asthma; and

10 WHEREAS, asthma is the most common chronic illness among children today,
11 impacting an estimated 1 in 10 children in San Francisco and, according to a community
12 health survey, 1 in 6 children in Bayview Hunters Point; and,

13 WHEREAS, three children died of asthma within a six-month period last year in our
14 city, which is an alarming tragedy since the last time a child had died from asthma was more
15 than 13 years ago; and,

16 WHEREAS, our city has the fourth highest asthma hospitalization rate for children in
17 the state, which is needlessly high given that hospitalizations are largely preventable and
18 represent the most severe manifestations of asthma; and,

19 WHEREAS, uncontrolled asthma hinders children’s attendance, participation and
20 progress in school and pre-school; impacts quality of life for children and their families; strains
21 family financial resources; and causes other undue burdens; and,

22 WHEREAS, asthma is a leading cause of school absenteeism due to chronic
23 conditions accounting for more than ten million lost school days every year nationally, which
24 reduces funding for schools through average daily attendance; and,

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**Supervisor Maxwell **

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 WHEREAS, the death of a child from asthma at a child care center last year is tragic
2 event that illustrates the seriousness of asthma episodes and the importance of proper
3 asthma management and emergency response in the child care setting; and,

4 WHEREAS, since many children with asthma spend a substantial portion of their day
5 in child care, child care facilities should be trained annually on asthma warning signs,
6 medications, environmental control and emergency protocols; and

7 WHEREAS, while the pediatric first aid and CPR training required for licensed
8 childcare providers every two years includes training on how to administer asthma
9 medications, this training is insufficient and in usually amounts to 15 minutes; and,

10 WHEREAS, the posting of a good standardized Asthma Emergency Plan in each child
11 care room of a child care facility provide quick access to critical information in the event of an
12 asthma emergency and potentially save a child's life; and,

13 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Asthma Task Force, under the auspices of the San
14 Francisco Board of Supervisors, has proposed recommendations in its city-wide strategic plan
15 that are consistent with this resolution; and,

16 WHEREAS, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title III of the Americans with
17 Disabilities Act requires that child care centers make reasonable accommodations/
18 modifications for children with disabilities, including breathing problems; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urge the directors and/or
20 proprietors of all, or an agreed-upon subset of, city-funded licensed child care facilities to
21 ensure that at least one staff member who has received two hours of asthma training be
22 available at all times when children are present at the facility or when children are offsite for
23 facility activities, and that the two hours of asthma training received by the aforementioned
24 staff members occurred within the past two years and meets the minimum standards as
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1 determined by a designated agency, such as the San Francisco Department of Public Health,
2 in collaboration with other agencies; and,

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urge the
4 directors and/or proprietors of all, or an agreed-upon subset of, city-funded licensed child care
5 facilities to post an Asthma Emergency Plan in all child care rooms of the aforementioned
6 child care facilities and that the posted plan is a standardized plan developed by a designated
7 agency, such as the San Francisco Department of Public Health, in collaboration with other
8 agencies, and contains information about the warning signs of asthma and steps to take in
9 the event of an asthma episode and asthma emergency.

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