

1 [Urging Legal Action Against the Department of Corrections]
2 URGING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO INSTITUTE AN INVESTIGATION AND CONSIDER
3 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
4 FOR IMPROPER ADMINISTRATION OF HIV MEDICATION AND FOR PROVIDING
5 INADEQUATE MEDICATION AND INFORMATION UPON RELEASE OF HIV INFECTED
6 PERSONS.

7
8 WHEREAS, The California Department of Corrections currently incarcerates
9 approximately 160,000 individuals; and,

10 WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections identifies 1,500 incarcerated persons as
11 HIV infected; and,

12 WHEREAS, The California Department of Corrections has estimated that the actual
13 number of HIV infected persons in the prison system is 4,500; and,

14 WHEREAS, Prisoner advocacy groups estimate that 10,000 HIV infected persons are
15 incarcerated in state prisons managed by the California Department of Corrections; and,

16 WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections routinely administers inconsistent HIV
17 therapy to incarcerated HIV infected persons; and,

18 WHEREAS, Inconsistent administration of HIV medication causes a more resilient,
19 drug-resistant virus which does not respond to therapy; and,

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a reputation for devoting resources and services to
21 HIV infected persons including indigent and formerly incarcerated persons through AIDS
22 service organization and the Department of Public Health; and,

23 WHEREAS, HIV infected prisoners released from the California Department of
24 Corrections prison system frequently come to San Francisco seeking treatment; and,
25

1 WHEREAS, HIV infected released persons receive only ten days medication and little
2 or no information on how to obtain continuing drug therapy; and,

3 WHEREAS, HIV infected prisoners released from the California Department of
4 Corrections are not provided with adequate medical documentation to obtain medication
5 without interruption from disability doctors; and,

6 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco incurs significant health risk to its
7 citizens and experiences a grave burden on its public health system and AIDS service
8 organizations because of the negligent administration of HIV medication by the Department of
9 Corrections and because of the insufficient information and documentation provided to HIV
10 infected prisoners being released; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12 urges the City Attorney to explore the possibility of any and all legal action against the
13 California Department of Corrections, including consideration of filing a law suit, to compel the
14 Department of Corrections to administer HIV drugs effectively and to prepare HIV infected
15 prisoners with appropriate information to continue HIV therapy after their release.

Adopted - Board of Supervisors, San Francisco September 22, 1998

Ayes: Supervisors Ammiano Brown Katz Kaufman Leno Medina
Newsom Yaki Yee

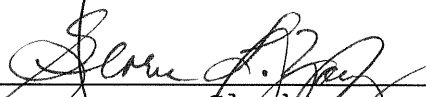
Absent: Supervisors Bierman Teng

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution
was adopted by the Board of Supervisors
of the City and County of San Francisco

File No.
98-1511

OCT - 2 1998

Date Approved


Clerk


Mayor

Mayor