

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 1338 (Umberg and Eggman) - Community
2 Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program]

3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to pass California State Senate Bill**
4 **No. 1338, introduced by California Senators Tom Umberg and Susan Eggman,**
5 **implementing Governor Gavin Newsom’s proposed Community Assistance, Recovery,**
6 **and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program.**

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8 WHEREAS, According to San Francisco’s 2019 Point in Time Count, 81% of our
9 unhoused, unsheltered residents suffer from some sort of psychiatric condition, addiction, or
10 both; and

11 WHEREAS, A 2016 investigation into chronic homelessness by the San Francisco
12 Chronicle found that “1,500 of San Francisco's roughly 6,700 street people - the total counted
13 in the city's homeless census of 2015 - are chronically homeless, and each costs the city
14 about \$80,000 each year in police, ambulance, hospital and other emergency services”; and

15 WHEREAS, A study titled “Understanding the 100 highest users of health and social
16 services in San Francisco,” published in Academic Emergency Medicine by Caroline Crawley
17 et al., found that “a small subgroup of frequent ED [Emergency Department] users have ≥18
18 ED visits per year and account for a disproportionate share of resource use, representing
19 0.2% of patients, but 4.5% of visits”; and

20 WHEREAS, Crawley et al. also found that the 100 highest users of health and social
21 services visited medical emergency departments a median 73 times per year, and psychiatric
22 emergency services a median 2.5 times per year; and

23 WHEREAS, According to an April 6, 2022, report in the San Francisco Examiner by
24 Sydney Johnson, the Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) unit at San Francisco General
25 Hospital has been on condition-red since May 2020; and

1 WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom’s Community Assistance, Recovery, and
2 Empowerment (CARE) Court Program proposes that counties provide our sickest residents
3 with long-term, court ordered care plans; and

4 WHEREAS, California State Senate Bill No. (SB) 1338 would implement Governor
5 Newsom’s proposed CARE Court Program by allowing specific people, including family
6 members, doctors, and first responders to petition a civil court to create a plan and administer
7 services for adults with schizophrenia and psychotic disorders; and

8 WHEREAS, Plans created under SB 1338’s mandate would include behavioral health
9 treatment, stabilizing medication, and access to an array of housing options with on-site
10 supportive services; and

11 WHEREAS, Passage of SB 1338 would represent an overdue reform of California’s
12 response to the behavioral health needs of individuals suffering from schizophrenia and
13 psychotic disorders; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports California Senate Bill No. 1338;
15 and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
17 Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to San Francisco’s state legislative delegation, and
18 the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly and Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

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