Resolution urging the United States Congress to renew and fully fund the Special Diabetes Program for 2014 to 2016.

WHEREAS, diabetes is a serious disease that affects the lives of nearly 26 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is a leading cause of kidney failure, a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke and contributes to more than 230,000 deaths each year; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is estimated to cost our nation more than $174 billion a year and one out of three Medicare dollars is spent on people with diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the health costs of diabetes is expected to triple in the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government is the only entity capable of managing a program on the scope of the Special Diabetes Program; and

WHEREAS, a multi-year SDP funding extension is the only way to clear up uncertainty over the SDP’s future and avoid slowing or stopping promising research initiatives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the people of the City and County of San Francisco by and through its Board of Supervisors urges the United States Congress to renew and fully fund the SDP program from 2014 to 2016 to continue to fight diabetes; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is hereby directed to forward a fully conformed copy of this resolution to the Congressional delegation representing the City and County of San Francisco.