

1 [RU 486 Approval]

2 URGING THE FEDERAL DRUG ADMINISTRATION TO IMMEDIATELY APPROVE RU 486,
3 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS MIFEPRISTONE FOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE UNITED
4 STATES WITHOUT TIGHT RESTRICTIONS SUCH AS CREATION OF A REGISTRY LISTING
5 PHYSICIANS WHO PRESCRIBE THIS DRUG.

6 WHEREAS, San Francisco is committed to making health care more widely accessible; and,

7 WHEREAS, Abortion is a legal health care option for women in the United States; and,

8 WHEREAS, Mifepristone, otherwise known as RU-486, is a non-surgical abortion pill designed
9 for women up to 49 days pregnant which has been used by approximately 500,000 women worldwide,
10 including women who have safely used the drug in Europe for more than a decade; and,

11 WHEREAS, In 1996, the Population Council completed a two year successful trial of this drug
12 within the United States; and,

13 WHEREAS, Mifepristone, deemed at least as safe as aspiration abortion, is a non-invasive
14 process which does not require anesthesia, making the most dramatic implications for developing
15 nations where sanitary conditions for performing abortion are often not optimal; and,

16 WHEREAS, Conservative estimates from the World Health Organization indicate that as many
17 as 200,000 women die each year from complications of illegal abortions; and,

18 WHEREAS, Almost four years ago, the Federal Drug Administration ruled that RU-486, or
19 mifepristone, was "approvable" in terms of its medical safety and effectiveness; and,

20 WHEREAS, Over the years, opponents to abortion have caused physical harm, sometimes even
21 fatal harm, to abortion provider clinics and doctors through such acts as clinic bombings and homicide
22 of doctors; and,

23 WHEREAS, Mifepristone would allow doctors to administer it in their offices without the kind
24 of notice and controversy associated with surgical abortion clinics; and,
25

SUPERVISORS
GAVIN NEWSOM, BIERMAN, KAUFMAN, AMMIANO, KATZ
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 WHEREAS, The Food and Drug Administration has proposed that mifepristone be approved for
2 use in the United States only with tight restrictions that could result in severely limiting its availability
3 and jeopardizing the lives of doctors who prescribe it; and,

4 WHEREAS, Among the proposed restrictions would be: keeping a national registry of all
5 doctors prescribing the drug, requiring that those doctors have admitting privileges at a hospital within
6 one hour of their offices, allowing only doctors trained in surgical abortion procedure to prescribe
7 mifepristone (excluding nurse practitioners from prescribing the drug), and tracking all women who
8 have had a medical abortion; and,

9 WHEREAS, Such restrictions would result in placing doctors in the same jeopardy as they
10 presently face from abortion opponents; and,

11 WHEREAS, These restrictions also threaten the accessibility of mifepristone by deterring
12 providers from prescribing it and further limiting the actual pool of eligible prescribers; now, therefore,
13 be it

14 RESOLVED, The City and County of San Francisco does hereby urge the Federal Drug
15 Administration to immediately approve RU 486, otherwise known as mifepristone, for distribution
16 within the United States without tight restrictions such as creation of a registry listing physicians who
17 prescribe this drug; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this legislation be sent to the Federal Drug
19 Administration, His Honor the Mayor of San Francisco and to San Francisco's Federal Representatives
20 with instructions that they take all possible steps in carrying out the intent of this resolution.



City and County of San Francisco

Tails

Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 001118

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the Federal Drug Administration to immediately approve RU 486, otherwise known as Mifepristone for distribution within the United States without tight restrictions such as creation of a registry listing physicians who prescribe this drug.

June 19, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Yaki

Absent: 2 - Teng, Yee

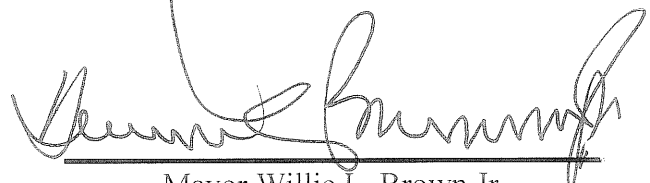
File No. 001118

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution
was ADOPTED on June 19, 2000 by the
Board of Supervisors of the City and County
of San Francisco.

JUN 30 2000

Date Approved


Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board


Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.