File I	No.	151239	

Committee	Item No.	
Board Item	No.	

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Committee:	Date:	
Board of Supervisors Meeting	Date:	December 8, 2015
Cmte Board    Motion   Resolution   Ordinance   Legislative Digest   Budget and Legislative Analyst   Youth Commission Report   Introduction Form   Department/Agency Cover Lett   MOU   Grant Information Form   Grant Budget   Subcontract Budget   Contract/Agreement   Form 126 – Ethics Commission   Award Letter   Application   Public Correspondence	t Repor	t
OTHER		
Prepared by:	Date: Date:	December 4, 2015

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[Urging an Amendment to the Human Services Agency's Imminent Danger Policy Regarding Victims of Domestic Violence]

Resolution urging the adoption of the Shelter Monitoring Committee's recommendations for amending the Human Services Agency's Imminent Danger policy as it pertains to victims of domestic violence.

WHEREAS, Under the existing Human Services Agency's (HSA) Imminent Danger policy, families are not eligible for shelter placement or to remain in shelter for thirty days if they are in an imminently dangerous situation that might cause harm to themselves, shelter families, or shelter staff; and

WHEREAS, Recently, HSA reduced the denial of service period from thirty days to fifteen days, but this is insufficient in assisting victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, In most cases of imminent danger, all members of the family will be required to leave immediately; and

WHEREAS, An example of imminent danger includes domestic violence incidents that have occurred between people in intimate relationships – either at the shelter or up to thirty days prior to the family being placed in the shelter; and

WHEREAS, Sixteen families received Denials of Service (DOS) from February 2014 through June 2015; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing constitute a critical service for families fleeing from domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, In FY2013-2014, city-funded emergency shelters provided 3,591 bed nights to women and their children escaping domestic violence, while three transitional housing programs and one permanent supportive housing program provided 11,659 bed nights to women seeking longer-term stability; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, 1,893 individuals were turned away due to lack of space; and

WHEREAS, The work of city agencies, community organizations and advocates, such as the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women, the Domestic Violence Consortium, and the Family Violence Council have led to ground-breaking programs, policies and best practices supporting domestic violence victims and reducing domestic violence-related crime; and

WHEREAS, Prohibiting victims of domestic violence and their families from shelter goes against these ground-breaking programs, policies and best practices; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a significant and pervasive problem affecting thousands of San Francisco residents and is one of the most chronically underreported crimes; and

WHEREAS, On November 18, 2015, the Shelter Monitoring Committee unanimously approved policy recommendations to amend HSA's Imminent Danger policy as it pertains to victims of domestic violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the adoption of the Shelter

Monitoring Committee's policy recommendations to the Human Services Agency's Imminent

Danger policy as it relates to victims of domestic violence, including the following:

- a. Prohibition of a denial of service on the basis of being a victim of domestic violence;
- b. Prohibition of a denial of service based on self-disclosure of domestic violence;
- c. Requirement of the use of lethality assessments upon intake to assess all families for the risk of domestic violence;
- d. Establishment of procedures in which shelters contact law enforcement for the provision of emergency protective orders in cases of domestic violence;

- e. An update to the shelter training manual for shelter staff on how to handle domestic violence and other crisis situations;
- f. Requirement of consistency with the San Francisco Shelter Grievance Policy; and
- g. The inclusion of these policies in contracts upon renewal or establishment of new contracts with shelter providers; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reinforces its commitment to protecting and supporting victims of domestic violence in all aspects.

## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

<ul> <li>□ 1. For reference to Committee.     An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.</li> <li>☑ 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.</li> <li>□ 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.</li> <li>□ 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor inquires"</li> <li>□ 5. City Attorney request.</li> <li>□ 6. Call File No. from Committee.</li> <li>□ 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).</li> <li>□ 8. Substitute Legislation File No.</li> </ul>	I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
<ul> <li>Z. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.</li> <li>3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.</li> <li>4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor inquires"</li> <li>5. City Attorney request.</li> <li>6. Call File No. from Committee.</li> <li>7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).</li> <li>8. Substitute Legislation File No.</li> </ul>	☐ 1. For reference to Committee.
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9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).	9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.	☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:  Small Business Commission  Youth Commission  Ethics Commission	
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission	☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative	ote: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative
Sponsor(s):	ponsor(s):
Tang, Breed, Christensen, Kim, Cohen	Гаng, Breed, Christensen, Kim, Cohen
Subject:	Subject:
Amending the Human Service Agency's Imminent Danger Policy Regarding Victims of Domestic Violence	Amending the Human Service Agency's Imminent Danger Policy Regarding Victims of Domestic Violence
The text is listed below or attached:	Γhe text is listed below or attached:
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
For Clerk's Use Only:	