

1 [Gift – Private]

2
3 **Resolution authorizing the Department of Public Health, Community Behavioral**
4 **Health Services to retroactively accept a gift of Buprenorphine medication from**
5 **Reckitt Benkiser Pharmaceuticals with a monetary value of up to \$300,000 for**
6 **the period of March 1, 2008 through August 31, 2008 for ongoing and new**
7 **patients receiving Opiate Replacement Treatment in San Francisco.**
8

9 WHEREAS, Resolution 138-07, approved March 20, 2007, authorized DPH to
10 retroactively accept a gift of Buprenorphine medication from Rickitt Benkiser
11 Pharmaceuticals with a monetary value of \$300,000 for the period of January 1, 2007
12 through December 31, 2009 to expand Opiate Replacement Therapy services in San
13 Francisco; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the gift was used to treat over 100 opiate dependent patients for
16 about 1 year, as planned; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the program has been very successful and the majority of the
19 patients remain in treatment today, and are doing quite well on the medication; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Department is seeing dramatically less opiate (e.g., heroin) use
22 and a number of patients have secured housing, returned to school or work, and/or
23 reunited with loved-ones; and
24
25

1 WHEREAS, Buprenorphine has been shown to be as effective as Methadone
2 and has appears to have fewer side effects, a greater margin of safely if taken in
3 overdose, and a lower potential for abuse than Methadone; and
4

5 WHEREAS, Buprenorphine can be distributed in an office setting by a certified
6 physician while Methadone is distributed in a clinic-based setting; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Department wishes to continue providing Buprenorphine but
9 due to the high cost and due to the current fiscal environment, funding opportunities
10 that do not rely on the General Fund should be maximized; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Reckitt Benckiser Pharmaceuticals, the maker of Buprenorphine,
13 has agreed to provide a second allotment of the medicine for up to 150 patients over
14 a 6 month period free of charge; and
15

16 WHEREAS, in return for the medicine, DPH agrees to share the outcome
17 information and continue to give presentations at local and national conferences; and
18

19 WHEREAS, DPH wishes to obtain approval from the Health Commission and
20 the Board of Supervisors to retroactively accept the second donation of the
21 Buprenorphine medicine; and now, therefore; be it
22

23 RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Health, Community Behavioral Health
24 Service is hereby authorized to accept this gift in accordance with the requirements set
25

1 forth pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-305, and Code
2 Section 10.100-201; and, be it

3
4 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Health, Community
5 Behavioral Health Services is hereby authorized to retroactively accept a gift of
6 Buprenorphine medication from Reckitt Benkiser Pharmaceuticals with a monetary
7 value of up to \$300,000 for the period of March 1, 2008 through August 31, 2008.

8
9
10 APPROVED:

RECOMMENDED:

11
12 _____
13 Mitch Katz, M.D.
14 Director of Health

15 _____
16 Michele Seaton
17 Health Commission