

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

March 19, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
1303-10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 050-21

Dear Governor Newsom:

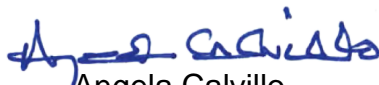
On February 2, 2021, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 050-21 (Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 221 (Wiener) - Timely Care for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders), which was enacted on February 12, 2021.

The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to forward the following document to your attention:

- One copy of Resolution No. 050-21 (File No. 210091)

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184, or by e-mail: board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

ll:jw:ams

- c. Members of the Board of Supervisors, Supervisors Hillary Ronen, Matt Haney, Rafael Mandelman, Ahsha Safai, Dean Preston, Myrna Melgar
Sophia Kittler, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors
Eddie McCaffrey, Mayor's Manager of State and Federal Legislative Affairs
Andres Power, Mayor's Policy Director
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Paul Yoder, Karen Lange, Erica Smith, City Lobbyists - Shaw/Yoder/Antwih Inc.

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 221 (Wiener) - Timely Care for Mental Health and
2 Substance Use Disorders]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 221, introduced on January 14,**
4 **2021, by Senator Scott Wiener (SD-11), which would require health plans and insurers**
5 **to provide patients with timely follow-up care for mental health issues and substance**
6 **use disorders.**

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9 Organizations (HMOs) and insurers provide initial care for patients within ten business days
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11 required to provide timely follow-up care for patients after an initial appointment; and

12 WHEREAS, This loophole in state law means that Californians suffering from mental
13 health issues and addiction may not be receiving the level of care that they need in order to
14 get better, or even as much as a second appointment; and

15 WHEREAS, In the absence of clear timely access standards for follow-up
16 appointments with non-physician mental health and substance use disorder providers - like
17 social workers and therapists - large numbers of Californians requiring ongoing courses of
18 treatment for mental health and substance use disorders have been unable to access care
19 within the timeframes that are clinically appropriate for their diagnoses; and

20 WHEREAS, Timeliness is critical when providing mental health care to individuals who
21 may be experiencing a mental health crisis, and significant delays in accessing care have
22 contributed to a growing number of tragic suicides; and

23 WHEREAS, Mental health care and substance use disorder treatment is urgent and
24 necessary, and people should have timely access to it before they go into crisis in the first
25 place and their situations escalate; and

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10 is unavailable for patients who need it and 51% of therapists reported that their patients wait
11 more than 4 weeks, on average, for a follow-up appointment; and

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13 Californians' health care priorities, 52% of those who tried to make a mental health
14 appointment believe they waited longer than was reasonable to get one; and

15 WHEREAS, COVID-19 has only exacerbated an already dire mental health and
16 substance use crisis facing our country, making timely access to mental health care all the
17 more important; and

18 WHEREAS, National survey data shows that the rate of anxiety and depression has
19 tripled over the previous year, and a recent Center for Disease Control study found that one in
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21 WHEREAS, Substance use and overdose deaths are on the rise nationally since the
22 beginning of the pandemic, and San Francisco has seen an unprecedented number of
23 overdose deaths which have outpaced COVID-19 deaths by a margin of three to one; and

24 WHEREAS, California Senate Bill 221, introduced by Senator Scott Wiener of San
25 Francisco, would establish clear timely access standards for HMOs who operate under

1 Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and health insurers who fall under the
2 jurisdiction of the California Department of Insurance (CDI), requiring them to provide follow-
3 up appointments and other forms of care within ten business days, unless a provider believes
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6 insurers to deny Californians timely and appropriate mental health and substance use
7 disorder care, and ensuring that people who need follow-up appointments get them in time;
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9 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 221 is sponsored by the National Union of Healthcare Workers
10 (NUHW), which represents more than 4,000 mental health and substance use disorder
11 clinicians in California; and

12 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 221 complements the objectives of Mental Health SF, a law
13 approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 2019 that overhauls how the city
14 provides services to people in crisis due to mental illness or addiction by decreasing
15 institutional barriers to lifesaving treatment and behavioral health services; now, therefore, be
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17 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports California Senate Bill
18 221, which would help ensure timely access to critical mental health care services for all
19 Californians whose health and well-being depend on such services; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and
21 County of San Francisco distribute this Resolution to San Francisco's State Legislative
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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 210091

Date Passed: February 02, 2021

Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 221, introduced on January 14, 2021, by Senator Scott Wiener (SD-11), which would require health plans and insurers to provide patients with timely follow-up care for mental health issues and substance use disorders.

February 02, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 210091

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/2/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

2/12/21

Mayor

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

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02/12/2021

Date

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March 19, 2021

The Honorable Scott Wiener
California State Senator
California State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 050-21

Dear Senator Wiener:

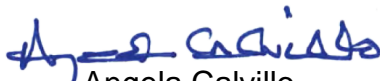
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City and County of San Francisco

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Tails
Resolution

File Number: 210091

Date Passed: February 02, 2021

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February 02, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 210091

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/2/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Mayor

2/12/21

Date Approved

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March 19, 2021

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly Member
California State Capitol, Room 4112
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0017

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 050-21

Dear Assembly Member Chiu:

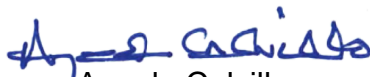
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California State Assembly Member
California State Capitol, Room 6026
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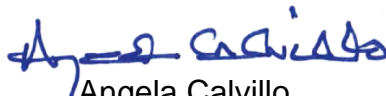
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15 institutional barriers to lifesaving treatment and behavioral health services; now, therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports California Senate Bill
18 221, which would help ensure timely access to critical mental health care services for all
19 Californians whose health and well-being depend on such services; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and
21 County of San Francisco distribute this Resolution to San Francisco's State Legislative
22 Delegation and to California Governor Gavin Newsom.

23
24
25



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 210091

Date Passed: February 02, 2021

Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 221, introduced on January 14, 2021, by Senator Scott Wiener (SD-11), which would require health plans and insurers to provide patients with timely follow-up care for mental health issues and substance use disorders.

February 02, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 210091

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/2/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

[Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo]

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Mayor

2/12/21

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

[Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo]

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

02/12/2021

Date