

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 988 (Bauer-Kahan) - The Miles Hall Lifeline
2 Suicide Prevention Act]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 988, The Miles Hall Lifeline**
4 **and Suicide Prevention Act, introduced by Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan**
5 **(AD-16), which would establish a suicide and mental health crisis hotline.**

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7 WHEREAS, The number of adults experiencing mental illness nationally has increased
8 by 35% over the last two decades and the issue has been exacerbated by the COVID-19
9 pandemic; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2018, there were an estimated 1.4 million suicide attempts and more
11 than 48,000 deaths by suicide; and

12 WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults and the second
13 leading cause of death among young people; and

14 WHEREAS, California is facing a dire mental health crisis, in which one in six
15 Californians now live with a mental health diagnosis; and

16 WHEREAS, One-third of unhoused individuals in the United States face serious mental
17 health issues; and

18 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's
19 2019 Report, 74 percent of unhoused individuals in San Francisco report living with one or
20 more health conditions; and

21 WHEREAS, 42 percent of unhoused people in San Francisco report substance use
22 issues, 39 percent psychiatric or emotional conditions, and 31 percent experiencing chronic
23 health problems; and

24 WHEREAS, Those facing mental health issues are more likely to be arrested, with a
25 lifetime risk of arrest falling between 63 to 90 percent; and

1 WHEREAS, 10 percent of all law enforcement agencies' budgets and 20 percent of
2 staff time is spent responding to individuals experiencing mental illness; and

3 WHEREAS, Since 2015, mental illness has played a role in 25 percent of all fatal
4 police-involved shootings, with Black men experiencing mental illness being disproportionately
5 impacted; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2019, Miles Hall a 23-year-old African American man living in Walnut
7 Creek experienced a schizophrenic mental health crisis and the only source of help available
8 was 911; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite familiarization with Miles' condition, officers resorted to utilizing
10 lethal force within a minute of their arrival on scene; and

11 WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 988 (AB 988), The Miles Hall Lifeline
12 and Suicide Prevention Act, would establish a Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Hotline in
13 California so that all people experiencing a mental health crisis are able to receive an
14 appropriate, non-police response that would provide access to life-saving care; and

15 WHEREAS, AB 988 would: (1) provide 24/7 access to crisis counseling through call,
16 text, and chat; (2) deploy mobile crisis teams when appropriate; and (3) would expand access
17 to stabilization services after a mental health crisis; and

18 WHEREAS, AB 988 has already been endorsed by the County of Contra Costa, the
19 County of Los Angeles, and the cities of Concord, Davis, Dublin, Lafayette, Livermore,
20 Oakley, Pleasanton, Sand Diego, San Pablo, San Ramon, and Walnut Creek as well as the
21 California Democratic Party; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports California State
23 Assembly Bill No. 988, The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
2 to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
3 (AD-16).

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