

[Substance Abuse Treatment on Demand]

1 ENDORSING THE GOAL OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT ON DEMAND
2 FOR INDIGENT SAN FRANCISCANS AND URGING THE MAYOR, THE HEALTH
3 COMMISSION AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO PROVIDE FULL
4 FUNDING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY'S FISCAL 1997/1998 BUDGET FOR
5 SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT ON DEMAND.

6 WHEREAS, Substance abuse, including abuse of alcohol, cocaine, heroin, and
7 stimulants, continues to be a serious health problem in San Francisco, disproportionately
8 affecting lower income individuals, women and people of color; and

9 WHEREAS, According to a recent report by the San Francisco Health
10 Department, abuse of stimulants, especially abuse of methamphetamine and cocaine, has
11 reached epidemic proportions in San Francisco, particularly affecting women with
12 children and young gay men; and

13 WHEREAS, San Francisco has the highest ratio of drug related Emergency Room
14 visits than any other major U.S. metropolitan area; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1992, nearly five infants everyday (11% of all births) were born
16 exposed to alcohol or drugs, and every three days a newborn entered foster care directly
17 from a nursery due to untreated drug use of their mothers; and

18 WHEREAS, Many City and County departments are forced to deal with problems
19 associated with substance abuse, and drugs have a significant impact on the Department
20 of Social Services, the Police and Sheriff's Departments, the court system, as well as the
21 public health system; and

22 WHEREAS, The current level of substance abuse treatment services in San
23 Francisco is insufficient to meet the demand, requiring drug abusers who are seeking
24

25 Supervisors Leal, Alioto, Ammiano, Bierman, Yaki, Teng, Brown

assistance to wait weeks and sometimes months for an appropriate treatment placement;
and

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2 WHEREAS, Substance abusing mothers with children are at an especially high
3 risk of losing their children in the dependency system when forced to wait for substance
4 abuse treatment, usually resulting in the placement of children in the custody of a non-
5 parent; and

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7 WHEREAS, Through the federally funded Target Cities, the City and County has
8 developed a sophisticated system for drug treatment referrals and coordinated case
9 management, but unfortunately lacks sufficient funds to achieve treatment capacity and
10 provide substance abuse treatment on demand for indigent San Franciscans; now,
11 therefore, be it

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13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
14 Francisco does hereby endorse the goal of substance abuse treatment on demand for
15 indigent San Franciscans; and be it

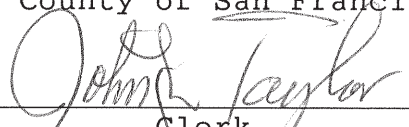
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17 FURTHER RESOVLED, That the Board urges the Mayor, the Health
18 Commission and the Director of Public Health to plan for and provide full funding in the
19 FY 1997/1998 budget of the City and County of San Francisco for substance abuse
20 treatment services on demand for indigent San Franciscans.
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Adopted - Board of Supervisors, San Francisco November 25, 1996

Ayes: Supervisors Alioto Ammiano Bierman Brown Hsieh Kaufman
Leal Teng Yaki

Absent: Supervisors Katz Shelley

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution
was adopted by the Board of Supervisors
of the City and County of San Francisco



Clerk



Mayor

File No.
30-96-20

NOV 27 1996

Date Approved