



Member, Board of Supervisors
District 6

City and County of San Francisco

JANE KIM

For Immediate Release

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Supervisor Kim Cracks Down On Bed Bugs

San Francisco – Today Supervisor Kim introduced long-awaited legislation to strengthen and enforce existing standards and methods of bedbug abatement. Back in March of 2011, she led a hearing on the impact of the bed bug epidemic city-wide, and asked city departments to work with community advocates to identify potential solutions.

Over the past year, the office has convened a working group that has met regularly and made recommendations to the Department of Public Health. Supervisor Kim’s ordinance takes up three of these recommendations by codifying the following :

- Ordinance requires the City to provide clear and accessible information on how to properly abate bedbug infestations to tenants, landlords and Pest Control Operators.
- Ordinance requires property owners and/or property managers to provide a prospective tenant written disclosure of the property’s bedbug infestation and abatement history. (This piece was taken from a provision of the New York Administrative Code that is widely-regarded to have been an effective bedbug mitigation tool.)
- Ordinance requires Pest Control Operators to report to the Department of Public Health on a monthly basis the number of units they have treated, giving the City a tool to efficiently manage its response to bedbug infestations, both in prioritizing neighborhoods in which infestations seem to be increasing and in prioritizing limited staff resources where the need is.

Supervisor Kim said, “This is the culmination of over two years of work by community advocates and city staff, and I’m proud that we are working to address an issue that cuts across socio-economic lines and impacts everyone from high-end office buildings to residential hotels housing our low-income residents. This ordinance will give San Francisco critical tools to become a leader in bedbug abatement and enforcement.”

The item will be taken up after the summer recess.

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