

1 [Urging FDA Blood Guideline Revisions]

2 URGING THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT
3 OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO DISREGARD THE RECENT VOTE BY A PANEL
4 OF FDA ADVISORS AGAINST ALLOWING HIV-NEGATIVE GAY MEN TO DONATE
5 BLOOD.

6
7 WHEREAS, Cities and states across the United States face chronic shortages of blood
8 donations each year; and,

9 WHEREAS, These blood donations are used to save the lives of millions of Americans
10 and are critical to our health care delivery system; and,

11 WHEREAS, Maximizing number of people who can safely donate blood is crucial to
12 this system of care; and,

13 WHEREAS, A panel of scientific advisors to the Food and Drug Administration last
14 week reviewed the blood donor regulations it submits to the Department of Health and
15 Human Services; and,

16 WHEREAS, The panel considered a proposal to change discriminatory guidelines that
17 ban HIV-negative gay men from donating blood; and,

18 WHEREAS, This change would have allowed men who have had sex with men within
19 the past five years to donate blood; and,

20 WHEREAS, Due to scientific advances that can detect the presence of virtually all HIV-
21 infected blood, the proposal did not go far enough to allow HIV-negative gay men to donate
22 blood and should have implemented a one year window period during which gay men could
23 not donate blood; and,

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1 WHEREAS, In a September 14th editorial piece, "Change Blood Donation Rules," the
2 San Francisco Chronicle came out in favor of allowing HIV-negative gay men to donate blood;
3 and,

4 WHEREAS, FDA guidelines should pre-screen potential blood donors by inquiring of
5 safe sex practices and not sexual orientation; and,

6 WHEREAS, The use of existing policy continues to communicate that there is
7 something inherently dangerous with gay male blood; and,

8 WHEREAS, The FDA's panel of scientific advisors nonetheless voted 7 to 6 against
9 revising the blood donation guidelines to allow HIV-negative gay men to donate blood; and,

10 WHEREAS, the FDA and the Department of Health and Human Services are not
11 bound to adhere to this decision and should disregard it as discriminatory and scientifically
12 unjustified; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
14 hereby urges the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Health
15 and Human Services to disregard the recent vote by a panel of FDA advisors against allowing
16 HIV-negative gay men to donate blood.



City and County of San Francisco

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Tails

Resolution

File Number: 001683

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to disregard the recent vote by a panel of FDA advisors against allowing HIV-negative gay men to donate blood.

October 2, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee

File No. 001683

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on October 2, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

OCT 13 2000

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.