Resolution denouncing the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) recent raid of the Sixth Street Harm Reduction Center in San Francisco and urging the DEA and the federal government to respect and uphold the will of the people of San Francisco that the City be a compassionate haven for the use of medical cannabis to alleviate the suffering of seriously ill patients.

WHEREAS, San Francisco voters and public officials have over the past two decades repeatedly supported efforts to make San Francisco a sanctuary for medical cannabis use; and,

WHEREAS, In 1996, the voters of the City and County of San Francisco supported by 78 percent Proposition 215, the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, which exempted patients and defined caregivers who possess or cultivate marijuana for medical treatment recommended by a physician from criminal laws which otherwise prohibit possession or cultivation of marijuana; and,

WHEREAS, In 2000, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco created a widely successful medical cannabis identification card program for individuals who qualify under the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 as users of medical cannabis or as primary caregivers to medical cannabis users; and,

WHEREAS, This ID card program is a central and critical part of the local health care delivery system designed by the City to address the needs of patients seriously ill with ailments such as cancer,

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anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glaucoma, arthritis, migraine, or other medical conditions for which cannabis provides relief; and,

WHEREAS, This legislative and policy history was recounted in a resolution recently passed in 2001 by the Board of Supervisors declaring the City and County of San Francisco a sanctuary for medical cannabis use, cultivation and distribution; and,

WHEREAS, The resolution was prompted in part by recent Drug Enforcement Agency raids of medical cannabis dispensaries in Southern California and was intended to discourage and voice opposition to similar raids in San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, Despite these definitive and clear policy statements and programs, the Drug Enforcement Agency on the morning of Tuesday, February 12, 2002 raided the Sixth Street Harm Reduction Center and arrested several individuals involved in the delivery of medical cannabis to patients and their caregivers; and,

WHEREAS, This raid is a direct assault on the health care delivery system of the City and County of San Francisco which should be respected as a legitimate and compassionate way in which a local jurisdiction takes an active role in meeting the medical needs of its residents; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby denounces the Drug Enforcement Agency's recent raid of the Sixth Street Harm Reduction Center in San Francisco; and be it

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FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the DEA and the federal
government to respect and uphold the will of the people of San
Francisco that the City be a compassionate haven for the use of
medical cannabis to alleviate the suffering of seriously ill
patients; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the federal government to
refrain from harassing, arresting or prosecuting physicians, medical
cannabis dispensaries, individual patients, or their primary
caregivers attempting to comply with section 11362.5 of the
California Health and Safety Code.
Resolution denouncing the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) recent raid of the Sixth Street Harm Reduction Center in San Francisco and urging the DEA and the federal government to respect and uphold the will of the people of San Francisco that the City be a compassionate haven for the use of medical cannabis to alleviate the suffering of seriously ill patients.

February 25, 2002 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 25, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.