[Spay Day - February 24, 2015]

Resolution supporting effective and humane ways to save animals’ lives, and
recognizing February 24, 2015, as Spay Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Pets provide companionship to approximately 79 million U.S. households, according to the 2012 United States Pet Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook; and

WHEREAS, Based on information provided by the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy, at least 6 million often young, healthy, friendly, and adoptable cats and dogs enter shelters each year; and

WHEREAS, Nationwide, less than 2% of cats and only 15 to 20% of dogs that enter animal shelters are reunited with their owners; and

WHEREAS, Of those animals that enter shelters, 56% of dogs and 71% of cats are euthanized due to a lack of critical resources and public awareness; and

WHEREAS, The Humane Society of the United States and the American Veterinary Medical Association found that nearly 90% of animals living in poverty and 98% of community (feral and stray) cats are unaltered; and

WHEREAS, Spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the number of animals that die each year due to abandonment, neglect, abuse, starvation, cruelty or euthanasia in animal shelters; and

WHEREAS, According to the California Animal Control Directors Association, the cost to California government and nonprofit agencies of handling and euthanizing discarded animals is estimated to approach one-quarter of $1,000,000,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, Spaying and neutering dogs and cats help solve this tragic and costly problem by reducing the number of dogs and cats that end up in shelters; and
WHEREAS, It is the policy of the State of California that animal shelters should aggressively promote spay and neuter programs to reduce pet overpopulation; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has consistently led the country in protecting and saving the lives of homeless and companion animals; and

WHEREAS, The 1994 adoption pact signed between San Francisco Animal Care & Control (ACC) and the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SFSPCA) helped San Francisco become the first No-Kill city in America; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, the SFSPCA reported the live release rate for the entire City of San Francisco increased from 87% to 91%, making San Francisco the only major city to save more than 90% of its homeless animals; and

WHEREAS, Veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens have worked together to ensure the spaying or neutering of pets and community cats through “Spay Day” in the United States and throughout the world since 1994; and

WHEREAS, Veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens have joined together again to advocate for the spaying or neutering of pets and community cats on “Spay Day 2015”; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes February 24, 2015 as “Spay Day”; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City further urges San Francisco veterinarians to work with animal shelters and rescue groups to provide accessible spay and neuter services on a regular basis.
Resolution supporting effective and humane ways to save animals' lives, and recognizing February 24, 2015, as Spay Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

February 24, 2015 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/24/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date: 3/6/15