Resolution Urging the State of California and San Francisco Department of Public Health to Prioritize People with Underlying Health Conditions and Disabilities in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Guidelines in Partnership with the California Department of Developmental Services and In-Home Supportive Services Programs

WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies a non-exhaustive list of underlying medical conditions including cancer, chronic kidney disease, pulmonary disease, developmental disabilities, obesity, sickle cell disease, and more as leading to increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 for adults at any age, including hospitalizations, admission to the ICU, intubation or mechanical ventilation, and death; and

WHEREAS, People with underlying medical conditions overall were found to be more than three times more likely than others to be hospitalized from COVID-19, those with disabilities were two or three times more likely to die from COVID-19, and the odds of dying from COVID-19 increase with each additional underlying medical condition for a patient of any age; and

WHEREAS, People with disabilities who rely upon in-home supports such as medical care, help with household chores, and more, and who live in individual or congregate settings in the community cannot fully self-quarantine and therefore are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, People with disabilities may be unable to wear masks or other Personal Protective Equipment which puts them at greater risk of contracting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, People with underlying medical conditions, higher weight people, and people with disabilities are delaying vital medical care and services during the pandemic due...
to self-quarantine and the risk of contracting COVID-19, and are experiencing devastating
effects on their health, wellness, and functioning; and

WHEREAS, The distribution of vaccines is an issue of equity as Black and Brown
communities face disproportionately higher prevalence of underlying health conditions and
comorbidities as a result of systemic racism in our health systems and lack of adequate
access to quality care and nutrition; and

WHEREAS, There is a high correlation between poverty and disability which
disproportionately increases the risk of serious health complications from COVID-19 for
people living in poverty and puts many people with underlying health conditions in high-risk
environments including frontline workplaces and congregate living spaces; and

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health has stated equity is one of the
overarching principles of California’s plan for the distribution and administration of the COVID-
19 vaccine and allocation decisions are data driven with an emphasis on equity and on
protecting vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, Original California State vaccine guidelines prioritized people aged 16-49
years of age who have an underlying health condition or disability which increases their risk of
severe COVID-19 in Phase 1C and CDC guidelines still recommend the prioritization of
people aged 16-64 years with underlying medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, The new California State vaccine guidelines provides access for people
aged 16-49 who have a specific disability or underlying health condition on a short and
exhaustive list beginning on March 15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Other States including Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New
Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Texas, Washington and New York have adopted more
expansive vaccine rollout guidelines to include prioritization for those with underlying medical
conditions and disabilities; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California Department of Public Health, California Governor's Vaccine Task Force and the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force Working Group to prioritize individuals who are at high risk of complications from COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions and disabilities in the vaccine distribution guideline and move the March 15, 2021 start date earlier as vaccine supplies allow; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the State to develop and implement guidance for how to prioritize and administer the COVID-19 vaccine to these vulnerable populations in partnership with the California Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers and In-Home Supportive Services programs; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Department of Public Health to expeditiously administer COVID-19 vaccines to people with medical vulnerabilities as soon as we can and as broadly as we can under State guidelines; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, Director of the California Department of Public Health and State Public Health Officer Dr. Tomás J. Aragón, and Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health Dr. Grant Colfax.
Resolution urging the State of California and San Francisco Department of Public Health to prioritize people with underlying health conditions and disabilities in COVID-19 vaccine distribution guidelines in partnership with the California Department of Developmental Services and In-Home Supportive Services programs.

February 23, 2021 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

February 23, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 2/23/2021 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 her 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