Resolution urging California State Governor Gavin Newsom to expedite the procurement, production, and disbursement of personal protective equipment and ventilators in the State of California.

WHEREAS, The County of San Francisco is currently experiencing an outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), which has been deemed a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, The State of California is a demonstrated leader in the fight against climate change; and

WHEREAS, Frontline healthcare workers such as doctors, nurses, paramedics, and In-Home Support Service (IHSS) providers have been the first line of defense in stopping the spread of COVID-19 often putting themselves in great risk of contracting the virus from various patients that they come into contact with every day; and

WHEREAS, Other healthcare professionals such as physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech language pathology workers are also fearful for their health because they also come into close contact with a vulnerable set of people, like seniors or those with pre-existing health conditions; and

WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, as of April 4, 2020 there are 1,136,851 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide and 67,507 people have died because of it; and

WHEREAS, On April 3, 2020, Johns Hopkins University reported that the novel coronavirus had infected more than 1.1 million people globally, killed more than 60,000 worldwide, and had been detected in at least 175 countries; and

[Urging the Governor to Expedite the Procurement, Production, and Disbursement of Personal Protective Equipment and Ventilators]
1 WHEREAS, In the United States, as of April 4, 2020, there are already 277,205 cases
2 with 6,593 deaths; in California, there are 12,026 confirmed cases, including 3,299 confirmed
3 cases in the Bay Area, and 276 confirmed deaths in California as we all as 529 confirmed
4 cases in San Francisco County; and
5
6 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization’s Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom
7 Ghebreyesus this past month announced that production of personal protective equipment
8 (PPE) must be increased by forty percent globally and that countries would not be able “to
9 stop COVID-19 without protecting health workers first”; and
10
11 WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has enacted the Defense Protection Act and
12 ordered the production of ventilators at General Motors, to help with the treatment of
13 COVID-19 patients, similar actions need to be taken in California to produce PPE using
14 Article 3 of the California Emergency Services Act (CA Government Code, Section 8572); and
15
16 WHEREAS, All frontline workers who come in contact with others and their goods need
17 PPE to keep them and all of us safe and protected from the spread of COVID-19; and
18
19 WHEREAS, If healthcare professionals continue to follow the “business as usual”
20 practices, they will undoubtedly become vectors for spreading the disease, further burdening
21 our healthcare system; now, therefore, be it
22
23 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors implores California
24 Governor Gavin Newsom to utilize the powers of his Executive Authority to expeditiously
25 procure and distribute all PPE available in the state to healthcare workers through local
26 distribution hubs to be coordinated by County public health departments; and, furthermore,
27 that he impress upon local manufacturers, statewide, to begin producing PPE to remedy the
28 current deficit of said protective gear in order to assure and provide improvements to safe
29 working conditions for all frontline workers; and, be it
30
31 Supervisors Safai; Mar, Ronen, Haney, Walton, Mandelman, Preston
32 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FURTHER RESOLVED, That California, like the rest of the country, is experiencing a ventilator shortage and ventilators are a life-saving measure against COVID-19, thus, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors encourages California Governor Gavin Newsom to do everything in his power to procure and push for the production of ventilators and help fill the existing ventilator gap in California; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That California Governor Gavin Newsom ensure that the PPE be shared and made available to all frontline workers, e.g., porters, environmental service workers.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom.
Resolution urging California State Governor Gavin Newsom to expedite the procurement, production, and disbursement of personal protective equipment and ventilators in the State of California.

April 14, 2020 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/14/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

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.