[Supporting the She Decides Initiative and Opposing the Enactment of the Mexico City Policy]

Resolution supporting the She Decides Global Initiative spearheaded by the Netherlands which aims to support women's fundamental rights around the world to decide if, when, and how many children they have, by filling any gaps in funding resulting from the U.S. President's reinstatement of the Mexico City Policy (also referred to as the "Gag Rule"), which bans financial support to foreign organizations that provide access to safe abortion or any information about abortion, even if they do so with non-U.S. funding.

WHEREAS, No existing method of birth control is 100% effective, access to contraception may be limited, and women will experience unintended pregnancies, thereby making safe abortion services a necessity; and

WHEREAS, An unsafe abortion is one of the five leading causes of pregnancy-related deaths and injuries globally; and

WHEREAS, 21.6 million women have unsafe abortions each year resulting in 47,000 deaths worldwide; and

WHEREAS, When the Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush administrations enforced the Mexico City Policy from 1985-1988, 1988-1993, and 2001-2009, respectively, it negatively-impacted efforts to mitigate the high rates of unsafe abortion proving the Mexico City Policy to be detrimental; and

WHEREAS, Trump's re-imposition and expansion of the Mexico City Policy applies to all global health funding, not just family planning funding through the United States Agency for International Development or the State Department ("USAID"), meaning Trump's rendition will impact 15 times more funding than previous applications which totals nearly $9.5 billion

Supervisors Kim; Safai, Fewer, Cohen, Ronen
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
dollars in global health funding in family planning and reproductive health funding according to
Population Action International a research and advocacy nonprofit aimed at protecting
women's reproductive rights; and

WHEREAS, The Mexico City Policy is an executive order that cuts funding for
international family planning organizations if they provide clients with information,
consultation, or services related to abortion or if they advocate for the legalization of abortion
in their countries; and

WHEREAS, The loss of U.S. funding contributes to the unmet need for modern
contraception for more than 225 million women around the world; and

WHEREAS, Marie Stopes International (MSI), one of the affected organizations, has
indicated that losing US funding for MSI-operations in the period 2017-2020 is expected to
lead to an additional 6.5 million unintended pregnancies, 2.2 million abortions, 2.1 million
unsafe abortions, and 21,700 maternal deaths; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 225 million women in developing countries want control over
their reproductive systems but are not using any method of contraception; and

WHEREAS, The She Decides Global Initiative aims to support women's fundamental
rights around the world to decide if, when, and how many children they have, by filling any
gaps in funding resulting from the U.S. President’s reinstatement of the Mexico City Policy;
and

WHEREAS, Women having access to information to make informed reproductive and
health care decisions is a public health benefit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares the City
and County of San Francisco’s support of the She Decides Initiative; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco opposes and will in
no way advance the current or future instatement of the Mexico City Policy; and, be it

Supervisors Kim; Safai, Fewer, Cohen, Ronen

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FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is hereby directed to forward this resolution to the Office of the President of the United States of America.
Resolution supporting the She Decides Global Initiative spearheaded by the Netherlands which aims to support women’s fundamental rights around the world to decide if, when, and how many children they have, by filling any gaps in funding resulting from the U.S. President’s reinstatement of the Mexico City Policy (also referred to as the "Gag Rule"), which bans financial support to foreign organizations that provide access to safe abortion or any information about abortion, even if they do so with non-U.S. funding.

May 09, 2017 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy and Yee
Excused: 1 - Tang

File No. 170524

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/9/2017 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

Mayor

5/19/17

Date Approved

5/19/17

Date