Resolution supporting the National Coalition on Health Care’s educational efforts regarding sustainable prescription drug pricing, through their Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing.

WHEREAS, Drug prices have increased dramatically in the last three years and contribute to higher health care costs for San Francisco Health Service System employers and members; and

WHEREAS, Today prescription drug expenditures are nearly 20% of health costs, and prescription spending is growing faster than any other segment of healthcare spending, primarily driven by spending on specialty medications; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that by 2017, specialty drug costs will increase to 44% of overall drug spending and by 2020, pharmaceutical costs will make up more than 50% of health premiums; and

WHEREAS, Prices have increased for common drugs with four of the top 10% of prescription drug prices increasing by 100% since 2011; and

WHEREAS, Sharply rising drug prices in the United States threaten affordability of health care for local, state, and federal government employers; and

WHEREAS, Increasing health care costs threaten wages and productivity by preventing access to affordable healthcare and by placing additional financial costs onto employers; and

WHEREAS, It is essential for the market to promote innovation and affordability—not one or the other; and
WHEREAS, The National Coalition on Health Care, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has launched educational efforts regarding these concerns through its Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing, which is a 501(c)(4) organization; and

WHEREAS, The National Coalition on Health Care, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, conducts research and policy analysis in support of the Campaign; and

WHEREAS, The Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing’s proposals for change include transparency proposals (Price Transparency Parity, A Better Return on Taxpayer Investments, Price Transparency Reports, and continued assessment of Direct to Consumer Advertising Requirements), competition proposals (Reducing the Backlog of Generic Applications, Fostering Competition for Branded Drugs, Curbing the use of Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies under the guise of exclusivity, and Creating Targeted Orphan Drug Incentives), and value proposals (Expanding Research on Treatment Effectiveness and Value, Requiring Drug Manufacturers to Conduct Comparisons of New Products to Existing Products, Ensuring that federal programs expand the availability of Value-Based Pricing, and Requiring Innovative Payment and Incentive Structures to Promote Value); and

WHEREAS, The Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing is a non-partisan national campaign made up of a growing coalition of organizations including hospitals, physicians, nurses, consumers, health plans, pharmacists, and employers all working to inform the debate on drug pricing and to finding non-partisan, market-based solutions to lower drug prices in the United States by fostering a national dialogue focused on the issue of drug pricing that strikes a balance between innovation and affordability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors support the National Coalition on Health Care’s educational efforts through its Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby urges
the California State Association of Counties and the National Association of County
Supervisors to sign on to the Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing.
Resolution supporting the National Coalition on Health Care's educational efforts regarding sustainable prescription drug pricing, through their Campaign for Sustainable Rx (Drug) Pricing.

May 16, 2017 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 9 - Breed, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Tang and Yee
Excused: 1 - Farrell
Absent: 1 - Sheehy

File No. 170567

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/16/2017 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.

Peggy Neven
Clerk of the Board