Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 988, The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act, introduced by Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (AD-16), which would establish a suicide and mental health crisis hotline.

WHEREAS, The number of adults experiencing mental illness nationally has increased by 35% over the last two decades and the issue has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, there were an estimated 1.4 million suicide attempts and more than 48,000 deaths by suicide; and

WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults and the second leading cause of death among young people; and

WHEREAS, California is facing a dire mental health crisis, in which one in six Californians now live with a mental health diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, One-third of unhoused individuals in the United States face serious mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing’s 2019 Report, 74 percent of unhoused individuals in San Francisco report living with one or more health conditions; and

WHEREAS, 42 percent of unhoused people in San Francisco report substance use issues, 39 percent psychiatric or emotional conditions, and 31 percent experiencing chronic health problems; and

WHEREAS, Those facing mental health issues are more likely to be arrested, with a lifetime risk of arrest falling between 63 to 90 percent; and
WHEREAS, 10 percent of all law enforcement agencies’ budgets and 20 percent of staff time is spent responding to individuals experiencing mental illness; and

WHEREAS, Since 2015, mental illness has played a role in 25 percent of all fatal police-involved shootings, with Black men experiencing mental illness being disproportionately impacted; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, Miles Hall, a 23-year-old African American man living in Walnut Creek experienced a schizophrenic mental health crisis and the only source of help available was 911; and

WHEREAS, Despite familiarization with Miles’ condition, officers resorted to utilizing lethal force within a minute of their arrival on scene; and

WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 988 (AB 988), The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act, would establish a Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Hotline in California so that all people experiencing a mental health crisis are able to receive an appropriate, non-police response that would provide access to life-saving care; and

WHEREAS, AB 988 would: (1) provide 24/7 access to crisis counseling through call, text, and chat; (2) deploy mobile crisis teams when appropriate; and (3) would expand access to stabilization services after a mental health crisis; and

WHEREAS, AB 988 has already been endorsed by the County of Contra Costa, the County of Los Angeles, and the cities of Concord, Davis, Dublin, Lafayette, Livermore, Oakley, Pleasanton, San Diego, San Pablo, San Ramon, and Walnut Creek as well as the California Democratic Party; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports California State Assembly Bill No. 988, The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (AD-16).
Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 988, The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act, introduced by Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (AD-16), which would establish a suicide and mental health crisis hotline.

May 25, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 210573

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/25/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Signature

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

Signature