Resolution urging the Department of Public Health to set uniform standards for healthcare facilities to fulfill the California Department of Public Health order mandating vaccinations for health care staff, and for healthcare providers to provide support for their workers including on-site vaccinations and supplemental paid time off.

WHEREAS, On July 26, 2021, the California Department of Public Health issued an Order on Vaccination and Testing mandating all workers in health care and high risk congregate settings either show proof of full vaccination or be tested up to twice weekly; and

WHEREAS, On August 9, 2021, the California Department of Public Health additionally mandated that all workers who work in certain health care facilities, where indoor care is provided to patients or patients have access to the building, become fully vaccinated by September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Facilities covered by this order include general acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, and ambulatory surgery centers, and many other facilities where patients receive medical and behavioral health care; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has followed the Order and required public health workers to show proof of full vaccination by September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has provided City employees access to testing and vaccinations as well as supplemental paid time off in order to support and encourage all City workers to get vaccinated; and
WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the public, the City and County, healthcare employers, and all health workers to have a healthcare workforce fully vaccinated against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Private healthcare providers have taken vastly different approaches to how they encourage or support their workforces to fulfill the vaccine mandate; and

WHEREAS, Some providers, such as Kaiser Permanente, have provided similar measures as the City and County of San Francisco, including on-site testing and vaccinations, supplemental paid time off for fulfilling the mandate, and eight hours of supplemental time off to accommodate potential vaccine side effects; and

WHEREAS, These accommodations and support are vital as frontline healthcare workers have contended with staffing shortages, increased workloads, and a heavy toll on their physical and mental well-beings in the midst of an ongoing pandemic with no end in sight; and

WHEREAS, Not all healthcare providers have offered support for their staff to fulfill the vaccine mandate; and

WHEREAS, For example, the California Pacific Medical Center has denied their workforce access to on site testing and vaccinations, and has not provided supplemental paid time off for COVID-19 testing or vaccination appointments during working hours, nor for vaccine side effects; and

WHEREAS, Instead, the California Pacific Medical Center is instead preparing to terminate workers and further diminish the size of a healthcare workforce already stretched thin; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Department of Public Health to establish uniform guidelines for how healthcare facilities can support employee compliance with the vaccine mandate, including but not limited to on-site
testing and vaccination access and supplemental paid time off to seek testing and vaccination appointments during work hours or to recover from common reactions to the vaccine; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges healthcare providers to protect staffing levels and patient care by supporting healthcare workers with vaccine and testing access and supplemental paid time off to accommodate vaccinations, testing, and any vaccine side effects before September 30, 2021.
Resolution urging the Department of Public Health to set uniform standards for healthcare facilities to fulfill the California Department of Public Health order mandating vaccinations for health care staff, and for healthcare providers to provide support for their workers including on-site vaccinations and supplemental paid time off.

September 14, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

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.