

1 [Commending San Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area for 12 Years of Community Advocacy  
2 and Awareness]

3 **Resolution commending San Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area on their 12th Annual “Be**  
4 **a Hero” Power of Jade Awards Gala on October 18, 2019, and recommitting San**  
5 **Francisco’s efforts to preventing and treating Hepatitis B.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, An estimated 81,000 Bay Area residents are infected with chronic hepatitis  
8 B and are likely unaware of their status because the disease is a “silent killer” that often  
9 exhibits no symptoms until it is too late; and

10 WHEREAS, Hepatitis B significantly impacts the Asian Pacific Islander community  
11 accounting for 50 percent of Americans living with hepatitis B, despite only making up 5  
12 percent of the total United States population; and

13 WHEREAS, One out of 12 Asian and Pacific Islander immigrants are infected with  
14 chronic hepatitis B and, without treatment or monitoring, one out of four of these individuals  
15 will die from liver cancer or liver failure; and

16 WHEREAS, Hepatitis B is preventable by vaccination and if detected early can be  
17 managed and treated to significantly reduce the risk of liver cancer; and

18 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area continues to lead the way in the battle  
19 against hepatitis B and liver cancer; and

20 WHEREAS, At the forefront of this work are organizations such as San Francisco Hep  
21 B Free - Bay Area that continue to promote public engagement through innovative outreach  
22 strategies including the “Which One Deserves to Die?” billboard campaign, Physician Honor  
23 Roll, and Business Initiative; and

24 WHEREAS, San Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area continues to fight hepatitis B by  
25 raising public and physician awareness, increasing education, offering free community

1 screenings and improving linkage to care so that Bay Area residents can better know their  
2 hepatitis B status and take measures to prevent or to treat hepatitis infections; and

3 WHEREAS, San Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area is expanding its efforts to San  
4 Mateo County in order to provide increased access to hundreds of Mongolian residents and  
5 Filipino Americans, both populations that are at high risk of infection; and

6 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors unanimously supported Resolution No. 184-14  
7 in May 2014 to support efforts “to make San Francisco the first City in America to be free of  
8 Hepatitis”; and

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s community-led efforts have made progress over the  
10 years, there is still significant work left to be done to reach more at-risk communities about  
11 hepatitis B prevention and treatment; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby recommits our efforts and support  
13 for San Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area and its fight against hepatitis B and liver disease;  
14 and

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges residents to raise  
16 awareness about hepatitis and encourage residents to get screened and vaccinated,  
17 especially those in Asian Pacific Islander and hard-to-reach communities; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby commends San  
19 Francisco Hep B Free - Bay Area for their leadership and advocacy on the occasion of their  
20 12th Annual “Be A Hero” Power of Jade Awards Gala on October 18, 2019.

