FILE NO. 021431

RESOLUTION NO. 579-02

[Resolution Urging Passage of Federal Prescription Drug Plan]

Resolution urging the United States Congress to address the crisis of the rapidly rising costs for prescription drugs.

WHEREAS, On July 31, 2002 the United States Senate failed to pass a prescription drug benefit for seniors, leaving 40 million Americans on Medicare without help; and,

WHEREAS, Average prescription drug costs for the nation's 40 million Medicare beneficiaries are up nearly 30% in the past two years; and,

WHEREAS, Nearly 40% of seniors on Medicare have no prescription drug insurance and these seniors pay the highest prices for their drugs; and,

WHEREAS, Many elderly people risk illness by cutting pills in half to stretch out their prescriptions, and many others choose between buying groceries and buying medicine; and,

WHEREAS, Seniors in California and across the nation are being dropped from their Medicare HMO plans and facing higher premiums or new spending limits for their prescriptions; and,

WHEREAS, The 85 and over age group is the fastest growing age group in San Francisco, California, and the United States, by the year 2030, this percentage is expected to double to over 26,000 individuals, or 4% of the total population in San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, Rising prices put lifesaving drugs increasingly beyond the reach of most senior citizens, making this issue of urgent importance; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the United States Congress to address the crisis of rapidly rising costs for prescription drugs.

Supervisor*Gerardo Sandoval, Chris Daly BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 021431

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the United States Congress to address the crisis of the rapidly rising costs for prescription drugs.

August 19, 2002 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 7 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Leno, Maxwell, Peskin, Sandoval Absent: 4 - Hall, McGoldrick, Newsom, Yee

File No. 021431

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on August 19, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

AUG 2.9 2002

Date Approved

Gloria L. Young Clerk of the Board Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.