

1 [Accept-Expend Federal Grant]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the Department of the Environment to accept and expend a**
4 **grant in the amount of \$51,500 from the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce**
5 **levels of mercury entering the San Francisco Bay by limiting the wastes associated**
6 **with mercury amalgam fillings generated by dental offices to minimum achievable**
7 **levels through a Dental Mercury Reduction Program.**

8 WHEREAS, Based upon evaluation of responses to an Environmental Protection
9 Agency request for proposals in the area of Source Reduction, the Department of the
10 Environment's Toxics Program was selected to be the recipient of \$51,500 in funding to
11 reduce levels of mercury entering the San Francisco Bay by limiting the wastes associated
12 with mercury amalgam fillings generated by dental offices to minimum achievable levels
13 through a Dental Mercury Reduction Program; and,

14 WHEREAS, In 1994 the Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program performed a pilot
15 study to measure concentrations of contaminants in fish in San Francisco Bay which indicated
16 the presence of chemicals or chemical groups, including mercury, dioxins and others that
17 impair the bay waters; and,

18 WHEREAS, Mercury is a persistent, bioaccumulative toxin that poses a risk to human
19 health, wildlife and the environment; and,

20 WHEREAS, Recent studies on mercury levels in San Francisco residents have been
21 linked to fish consumption and to a number of specific health conditions; and,

22 WHEREAS, Dental amalgam fillings typically contain 45% of mercury by weight and
23 mercury is the primary pollutant emitted from dental practices; and,

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Supervisor Dufty
Department of the Environment
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 WHEREAS, Dental clinics remain largely unregulated for mercury disposal and
2 extracted amalgam materials are often disposed of down the drain and into the Bay via the
3 municipal waste water system; and,

4 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment in collaboration with the San
5 Francisco Public Utilities Commission will require dental offices to limit amalgam wastes
6 generated to minimum achievable levels through installation of Amalgam Removal Equipment
7 and implementation of best management practices or self-monitoring to show compliance with
8 the local limit and implementation best management practices; and,

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco will promote the installation of Amalgam Removal
10 Equipment and recognize early adopters of this equipment by awarding rebate checks to
11 cover partial cost of equipment; and,

12 WHEREAS, Money through this grant will support those dental practices identified by
13 the San Francisco Dental Society as serving low-income populations; and,

14 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment Toxics Program will conduct
15 extensive outreach to local dentists and will provide dental practices training opportunities in
16 issues such as mercury waste management, installation of Amalgam Removal Equipment and
17 proper hazardous waste management; and,

18 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment Toxics Program will hold a Workshop
19 to train neighboring counties on implementation of similar mandatory programs; and,

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Dental Mercury Reduction Program will create the first
21 mandatory mercury pollution prevention program for dental offices in the EPA's Region IX and
22 serve as a model for other jurisdictions around the San Francisco Bay, throughout California
23 and the rest of the United States; and,

24 WHEREAS, The grant budget includes provision for indirect costs of \$4,682.00 now,
25 therefore, be it

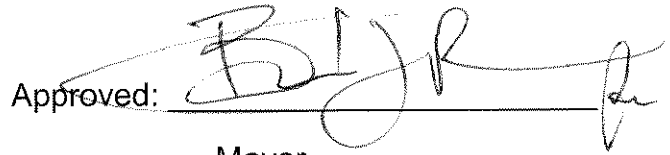
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RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors authorizes the Director of the Department of the Environment to accept and expend funding of \$51,500 from the Environmental Protection Agency to provide a Dental Mercury Reduction Program.


Recommended:



Department Head

Approved: 

Mayor

Approved: 

Controller



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails Resolution

File Number: 031641

Date Passed:

Resolution authorizing the Department of the Environment to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$51,500 from the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce levels of mercury entering the San Francisco Bay by limiting the wastes associated with mercury amalgam fillings generated by dental offices to minimum achievable levels through a Dental Mercury Reduction Program.

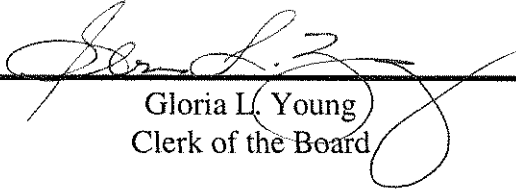
October 21, 2003 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Gonzalez, Hall, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick,
Peskin, Sandoval


Absent: 1 - Newsom

File No. 031641

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on October 21, 2003 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.


Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

October 22, 2003
Date Approved


Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.
Acting Mayor