FILE NO. 240384

[Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2479 (Haney) - An Act to Amend the Housing First Act of 2016]

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2479, an act to amend and add sober living facilities to the Housing First Act of 2016, authored by Assembly Member Matt Haney, to enable state investment in drug free recovery.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1380, also known as the Housing First Act, was passed by California Legislature in 2016 to require all housing programs to adopt policies centered around the goal of removing barriers to providing housing for anyone experiencing homelessness, connecting unhoused individuals to a safe and permanent place to live; and

WHEREAS, There are thousands of people experiencing homelessness that desire to live in drug free recovery living arrangements yet are unable to access abstinence-based housing because it is inaccessible, limited, and unsupported by state investment; and

WHEREAS, The lack of accessible sober living facilities forces people to live in housing that isn't suited to support individuals attempting to stay on the path to recovery, exacerbating substance abuse, mental health issues, and return to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Drug free recovery housing supports individuals' sobriety journeys as those in recovery are at higher risk of relapsing, overdosing, or returning to homelessness when surrounded by substances in their homes; and

WHEREAS, The potency, prevalence, and price of Fentanyl increases the risk of relapse and has contributed to making Fentanyl responsible for the overwhelming number of overdose fatalities in San Francisco in 2023; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, Assembly Bill 2479 would ensure that an individual relapsing would not be a cause for eviction but instead would provide these individuals with relapse

Supervisors Stefani; Safai, Mandelman, Dorsey BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

recovery assistance through detoxification programs and intensive peer-to-peer support so that they can resume their recovery from addiction; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, Assembly Bill 2479 would allow participants to be placed in alternate housing programs practicing harm-reduction principles should they be disruptive to the surrounding recovery community's sobriety or are no longer interested in a recovery-model housing program; and

WHEREAS, Tenants have the ability to apply to reenter the drug free housing program if they demonstrate a renewed commitment to living in a community focused around recovery principles with an abstinence focus; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2479 promotes long-term housing stability by aligning with participants' prioritization of sustained recovery and sobriety from substance use, thus aiming to reduce returns to homelessness caused by relapse; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2479 is consistent with the core components of the Housing First Act, enabling state investment in drug free housing programs that enhance recovery from addiction and ensuring that any unhousing individuals, including those embracing sobriety, do not face barriers to achieving housing; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby endorses Assembly Bill No. 2479; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of the State Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member Matt Haney, Assembly Member Phil Ting, as a demonstration of the Board's support for Assembly Bill No. 2479 and its commitment to recognizing drug free recovery housing is consistent with Housing First Policy and allows these residential programs to receive state support in California.

Supervisors Stefani; Safai, Mandelman, Dorsey **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



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

File Number: 240384

Date Passed: April 23, 2024

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2479, an act to amend and add sober living facilities to the Housing First Act of 2016, authored by Assembly Member Matt Haney, to enable state investment in drug free recovery.

April 23, 2024 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton Excused: 1 - Melgar

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/23/2024 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor 05/03/2024

Date Approved

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

05/03/2024

Date