

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**
Resolution No. 17-2

IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CALIFORNIA END OF LIFE OPTION ACT IN THE SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH NETWORK

WHEREAS, With the passage of AB 15, which became effective on June 9, 2016, California became the fifth state to legalize “aid-in-dying”, after Oregon, Washington, Vermont, and Montana; and

WHEREAS, the California End of Life Option Act permits “aid-in-dying” which enables terminally ill adults with the capacity to make medical decisions, to request a prescription for an aid-in-dying drug to end their life in a humane and dignified manner; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH) recognizes the diversity of perspectives on end-of-life decisions; and

WHEREAS, SFPDH supports the advancement of end of life care, including palliative care practices as expressed in Health Commission Resolution 14-18; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors previously passed a resolution (File No. 150629) in support of SB 128, an earlier version of AB 15; and

WHEREAS, SFPDH respects that the end of life is a difficult-complex time for individuals with terminal illness and recognizes that the practice of “aid-in-dying” provides another option for patients to consider; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that appropriate San Francisco Health Network patients who wish to access this option have a pathway to do so, SFPDH convened a multi-disciplinary Advisory Committee with representation from across the San Francisco Health Network to develop a policy for implementation of the California End of Life Option Act; and

WHEREAS, SFPDH’s policy supports the provision of a spectrum of end-of-life care for San Francisco Health Network patients, which has long included hospice and palliative care, and, now includes the End of Life Option Act; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission supports the rights of patients to make medical decisions for themselves at the end of their life; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission commends SFPDH’s proactive and system-wide approach to provide end of life care for its patients;

I hereby certify that at the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of February 7, 2017 adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz
Executive Secretary to the Health Commission