

HEALTH COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 21-08

**URGING THE MAYOR TO PROTECT FUNDING FOR
CRITICAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco is facing an estimated \$95 million revenue shortfall for fiscal year 08-09 and the Mayor's Budget Office has required that the Department reduce its utilization of General Fund by \$26.7 million; and

WHEREAS, this reduction amounts to 30% of the total reduction requested from the Mayor's Budget Office to all City and County departments; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of people testified before the Health Commission about the impact that proposed budget reductions would have on their lives and the lives of others; and

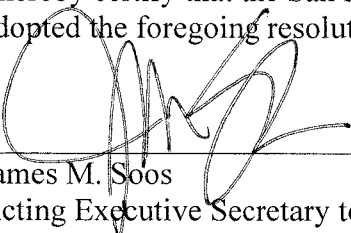
WHEREAS, in order to meet the directives from the Mayor's Budget Office the proposed reductions include mental health, HIV prevention, STD testing, primary care, housing and other services, all of which are critical to furthering the mission of the Department of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, the Health Commission has a responsibility to maintain the safety net and public health services for San Francisco's most vulnerable residents and is opposed to any cuts in current services that threaten the safety net, and furthermore has the responsibility to inform decision makers about critical health care needs; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission is deeply concerned about the extent of reductions proposed and the impact on the Department's ability to provide the wide range of services critical to fulfilling the mission of the department; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the City and County of San Francisco cannot identify enough new revenue to prevent reductions, the Health Commission strongly urges the Mayor to preferentially protect health and human services over other services funded by the City and County.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of November 25, 2008 adopted the foregoing resolution.



James M. Soos
Acting Executive Secretary to the Health Commission