

**HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Resolution No. 13-09**

**URGING CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE THREE-YEAR RYAN WHITE  
HIV/AIDS TREATMENT MODERNIZATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION  
BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**

WHEREAS, the CDC estimates that 250,000 to 300,000 individuals diagnosed with HIV infection still receive no HIV-related medical treatment, and another 180,000–240,000 do not even know they are infected, meaning that there are at least 430,000 people living with HIV in the U.S. who are not receiving HIV-related medical care; and,

WHEREAS, in 2008, the CDC estimated that approximately 56,300 people were newly infected with HIV in the previous year; and,

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Area has a population of 1.8 million and an estimated 23,000 people living with HIV/AIDS, approximately 19,000 of whom live in San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, improved access to care and increasingly effective HIV treatments have resulted in a decline in deaths among persons living with HIV/AIDS, which, in turn, means that there are more people living with HIV/AIDS and, consequently, more people in need of services and adequate health insurance coverage for such services; and,

WHEREAS, the Ryan White Act, now funded at \$2.2 billion annually, is the largest federal discretionary response to the domestic HIV/AIDS epidemic; and,

WHEREAS, Ryan White programs play a pivotal role in providing uninsured or underinsured people living with HIV and AIDS with the care and treatment they need and deserve; and,

WHEREAS, the Ryan White Act addresses the unmet care and treatment needs of individuals living with HIV/AIDS by funding primary health care and support services that enhance access to and retention in care; and,

WHEREAS, Ryan White programs include legislative fixes supported by over 275 HIV/AIDS organizations in 45 states, Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico; and,

WHEREAS, Ryan White programs work with cities, states, and local community-based organization to provide services to more than half a million individuals each year; and,

WHEREAS, in December of 2006, the Ryan White Act was reauthorized for a three-year period with a sunset clause. Without action, this critically important legislation will expire on September 30, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, the reauthorization of Ryan White programs will guarantee uninterrupted access to care and treatment of HIV/AIDS for individuals utilizing Ryan White services; and,

WHEREAS, Congress has not addressed the reauthorization of the Ryan White legislation, despite the imminent termination date to ensure that Ryan White programs do not experience service disruptions; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission strongly urges Congress to approve the three-year Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act reauthorization before it expires on September 30, 2009.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on September 1, 2009 adopted the foregoing resolution.



Grace Alderson

Acting Commission Executive Secretary