

**Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 19-10**

RESOLUTION HONORING MITCHELL H KATZ, MD FOR HIS 24 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AND FOR THE TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTIONS HE HAS MADE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

WHEREAS, Mitchell H. Katz, MD served the City and County of San Francisco with dedication and loyalty for 24 years starting as an intern in the emergency department of San Francisco General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at DPH, Dr. Katz worked as Director of the AIDS Office from 1992 through 1997 when he was appointed Director of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, in addition to his duties as an administrator, he has continued to practice medicine, seeing patients with an emphasis on those with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, he consistently has shown himself to be thoughtful, persistent and intelligent when leading the Department of Public Health focusing on how to provide quality care, how to support healthy communities, and how to prevent disease; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Katz's leadership, Healthy Kids was created making public health insurance for children and youth available to low and moderate income San Francisco residents ineligible for other public programs; and,

WHEREAS, the successful implementation of Healthy San Francisco (HSF) exemplifies his thoughtful approach to problem solving, working with policy makers to craft a non-insurance health benefit program for the City's approximately 60,000 uninsured individuals that was a model for the National Health Care Reform; and,

WHEREAS, HSF restructured the existing safety net system costing substantially less for the county to run than an insurance program and enrolling more than 53,500 members or nearly 90 percent of the estimated 60,000 to date; and,

WHEREAS, under his tenure, Dr. Katz advocated for public health interventions to promote healthful behavior and prevent chronic disease including: banning tobacco sales in pharmacies, promoting smoking bans in public areas of San Francisco, developing successful STD prevention campaigns, expanding access to healthy foods for all communities including increasing the number and hours farmers markets operate, supporting the Soda Free Summer campaign, and campaigning to prevent and eliminate obesity in children, banning sodas and candy in school vending machines; and,

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Direct Access to Housing program has become a national model placing more than 1,000 homeless persons with medical problems directly from the street into supportive housing; and,

WHEREAS, during Dr. Katz's tenure, the Laguna Honda Hospital rebuild bond was approved and the new state of the art facility will be opening December 2010 and become home to 780 seniors and adults with disabilities; and

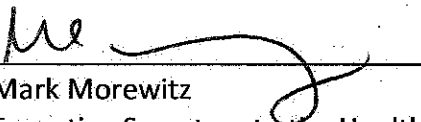
WHEREAS, with Dr. Katz's leadership, Proposition A, the \$887 million San Francisco General Hospital obligation bond passed by an amazing 84 percent, paving the way for the construction of a new seismically sound hospital; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Katz is an innovative public health leader with a wealth of knowledge and experience; and

WHEREAS, Mitch is leaving City employment in January to become the Director of the Los Angeles County Health Services Department; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission honors Mitchell H Katz, MD for his outstanding service and leadership on this 7th day of December 2010.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of December 7, 2010 adopted the foregoing resolution.


Mark Morewitz
Executive Secretary to the Health Commission