

1 **[Motion to Support SB 472: Pupil Health: Opioid Overdose Reversal Medication]**

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4 **Supplemental Information:**

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6 See attached document [Letter of Support]

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Commissioner Colin
SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION

1 April 3rd, 2023

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3 The Honorable Melissa Hurtado

4 1315 10th St.

5 Sacramento, California 95814

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7 **RE: Support for SB 472: Pupil Health: Opioid Overdose Reversal Medication**

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9 Dear Senator Melissa Hurtado, Senator Bob Archuleta, and Senator Richard Roth,

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11 The San Francisco Youth Commission supports your bill SB 472: Pupil Health: Opioid
12 Overdose Reversal Medication. This bill would ensure a decline in opioid overdose deaths by
13 requiring California school districts, the county office of education, and charter schools to
14 maintain naloxone at all times, while those who fail to exercise this authorization to distribute
15 naloxone will have to report to the State Department of Education and the State Department
16 of Health Care Services.

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18 The Youth Commission is composed of seventeen youths, between the ages of 12 to 23, who
19 represent the diverse communities of San Francisco. Created by the voters under a 1995
20 amendment to the City Charter, the Youth Commission advises the Board of Supervisors and
21 the Mayor of San Francisco on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth
22 Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed
23 laws that would primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

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25 The Youth Commission's Transformative Justice Committee specifically has a longstanding
26 history of advocating for substance-abuse resources, immigration rights, youth incarceration,
27 along with several other issues. The Transformative Justice Committee recently passed
28 Resolution NO. 2223-AL-08 [Combating Fentanyl Usage in Youth], advocating for the
29 implementation of a Narcan Program in all San Francisco Schools. In San Francisco
30 specifically, teen drug use has rapidly increased over the years: 253 in 2019, 680 in 2020,
31 and 880 in 2021; and in the United States, fentanyl is at fault for 77 percent of drug-related
32 deaths among teenagers.

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34 Thus, having Naloxone on hand is an efficient and life-saving treatment that reverses the
35 effects of opioid overdoses. Moreover, since more than one in three opioid overdoses involve
36 witnesses, with the correct equipment, like Naloxone, bystanders can take action to prevent
37 overdose deaths. Additionally, about 16 percent of individuals who acquire take-home
38 Naloxone from schools have helped to reverse an opioid overdose, demonstrating the
39 importance of having necessary tools like Naloxone.

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41 The impact that this bill would have on youth and all people who have drug addictions in
42 California would be trailblazing and have a positive impact on generations to come.

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For all these reasons, the Youth Commission supports SB 472, and we thank you all for your work on this issue.

Sincerely,

Emily Nguyen, Chair of the San Francisco Youth Commission

Yoselin Colin, Chair of the Transformative Justice Committee

Adopted on 4/3/2023
2022-2023 San Francisco Youth Commission