

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAIR WAGES & HEALTH BENEFITS FOR
GROCERY STORE WORKERS**

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW), Bay Area Coalition representing 30,000 people throughout Northern California, is about to enter into negotiations with grocery store employers; and

WHEREAS, during these negotiations, it is expected that the employers will propose potentially damaging cutbacks in employee health care and wages which could have a disastrous effect on the employees, their families and taxpayers in general; and

WHEREAS, if the recent contract settlement in Southern California were to spread across the state, the average annual wage for a grocery worker could drop \$6,171, officially placing most workers below what a worker in a two income family of four needs to earn in the Bay Area to reach self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, by 2007, as many as 53% of workers, representing 128,000 workers and family members statewide, would no longer be insured by the joint union/employer health plan and almost 25% of these family members will have to enroll in a public health plan, shifting between \$66 and \$102 million in health care costs onto the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, by the end of the contract in 2007, it is estimated that the public will have subsidized grocers a total of \$202 to \$293 million in health care costs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California hereby supports the UFCW Bay Area Coalition and its members in their upcoming negotiations and call on grocery store employers to bargain fairly and protect healthcare for all of their employees and their families.

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