

**HEALTH COMMISSION**

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

RESOLUTION NO. 14-07

**DETERMINING THAT THE CLOSURE OF SAINT FRANCIS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL'S SKILLED NURSING UNIT WILL HAVE A DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON THE HEALTH CARE SERVICE OF THE COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital operates a 34 bed skilled nursing unit, which opened in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital plans to close its skilled nursing unit, effective December 15, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Health Commission, in accordance with the Community Health Care Planning Ordinance (Proposition Q) held a public hearing on November 6, 2007, regarding the closure of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital's skilled nursing unit; and

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has testified that the skilled nursing unit is used primarily to discharge its patients out of acute care and has an average length of stay of 12.2 days; and

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has been referring patients discharged from Saint Francis Memorial Hospital who require skilled nursing care to community based skilled nursing facilities, including Saint Mary's Medical Center, and has done so without any impact on the quality of service for these patients; and

WHEREAS, after the closure of the skilled nursing unit, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital patients requiring this level of care will be discharged to a community SNF or will remain in a medical surgical bed until such arrangements can be made; and

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has secured a bed hold contract with Kindred Healthcare who owns and operates four facilities in San Francisco and is actively pursuing a similar arrangement with Grove Street SNF; and

WHEREAS, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has developed other discharge partnerships, including San Francisco Senior Center Homecoming Services, Institute on Aging Discharge Services, Saint Anthony's, Glide and South of Market Health Center respite partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the demand for skilled nursing facility beds in San Francisco currently exceeds supply, particularly in the area of long-term care skilled nursing facility beds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the plans made for discharge of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital patients may not provide the same standard of care, and may result in unintended readmissions of patients who need a higher level of care; and be it

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the closure of the skilled nursing unit at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital will have a detrimental impact on the health care service of the community because it decreases the number of skilled nursing beds in San Francisco; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Saint Francis Memorial Hospital is commended for its efforts to reduce the effect of the closure of the skilled nursing service on the community; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Commission and Health Department must take a leadership role in planning for the needs of health care service in the community by calling together all institutions and organizations concerned including the City Planning Department.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of November 13, 2007 adopted the foregoing resolution.



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Michele M. Seaton  
Executive Secretary to the Health  
Commission