

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill 1286 (Leno) - Increasing Law Enforcement  
2 Transparency]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill 1286, authored by Senators Mark**  
4 **Leno, Holly Mitchell and John Moorlach, improving government transparency and**  
5 **accountability by allowing the public to access information on police misconduct and**  
6 **use of force.**

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8 WHEREAS, Police departments and law enforcement agencies across America have  
9 for years, closely guarded information relating to misconduct, use of force, and stop data; and

10 WHEREAS, To increase accountability, improve public trust of law enforcement and  
11 promote informed participation by the public, specific data must be accessible to the public  
12 and available online in an open format; and

13 WHEREAS, Polling data shows that nearly 80% of Californians believe the public  
14 should have access to the findings of police misconduct; and

15 WHEREAS, Many states including Texas, Kentucky, Utah, and several others, already  
16 make police misconduct information available to the public when an allegation of misconduct  
17 has been confirmed; and

18 WHEREAS, At least ten other states, including Florida, Ohio, and Washington, also  
19 make these same records public regardless of whether an incident of misconduct has been  
20 confirmed; and

21 WHEREAS, In February, California Senate Bill (SB) 1286, introduced by Senator Mark  
22 Leno would improve transparency, accountability, and trust between law enforcement and the  
23 public; and

24 WHEREAS, SB 1286 would allow greater public access to peace officer records  
25 related to serious uses of force and sustained charges of misconduct; and

1           WHEREAS, SB 1286 also gives members of the public who file complaints alleging  
2 misconduct access to information related to those complaints, while also providing protections  
3 for officers from frivolous and oppressive complaints from members of the public; and

4           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors have already taken action locally  
5 to create more transparency into law enforcement by unanimously passing the transparent  
6 policing and data collection ordinance in September, 2015 and moving a ballot measure  
7 forward to the voters requiring independent investigations into all officer involved shootings in  
8 March, 2016; and

9           WHEREAS, SB 1286 aims to balance the needs of public disclosure and individual  
10 privacy by allowing courts to withhold records if there is a risk or danger to an officer or  
11 another person; now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declares their support for  
13 SB 1286, and urges the Senate and Assembly to pass this bill; and, be it

14           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs  
15 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this resolution to Senator Mark Leno with a  
16 request to take all actions necessary to achieve the objectives of SB 1286.

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