1   [Recognizing Korean Chuseok Day - September 10, 2022]

2

3   **Resolution recognizing September 10, 2022, as Korean Chuseok Day and honoring**

4   **the Korean Center, Inc. for its contributions to the Korean American community in**

5   **the City and County of San Francisco.**

6

7   WHEREAS, Korean Chuseok Day, otherwise known as Korean Thanksgiving, is a

8   harvest festival celebrated at the autumn equinox of the Lunar Calendar and is one of the

9   most important and widely celebrated holidays in the Korean culture; and

10   WHEREAS, Korean Americans have contributed immeasurably to the culture and

11   history of this city, state, and country; and

12   WHEREAS, Korean Americans are the fifth largest Asian American ethnic group in the

13   United States, with a population of over 1.8 million and more than 500,000 in California alone;

14   and

15   WHEREAS, In the San Francisco Bay Area, Korean Americans are the sixth largest

16   Asian population with approximately 90,000 residents; and

17   WHEREAS, San Francisco has been a principal port of entry for Korean immigrants since the

18   early 1900s and more recently since the repeal of restrictive immigration quotas in 1965; and

19   WHEREAS, San Francisco has been a center of political activism and cultural

20   importance for Korean Americans since the late 19th century; and

21   WHEREAS, In 1883, Bobingsa, the first Korean diplomatic delegation dispatched

22   to the United States, led by Prince Min Young-lk, had San Francisco as its first destination

23   where the delegation stayed at the Palace Hotel located on 2 New Montgomery Street; and

24   WHEREAS, The Korean National Association was founded in San Francisco,

25   functioning as a de facto government in exile for Koreans rendered stateless in 1910; the

1   Association's newspaper Shinhan Minbo provided knowledge and information to

2   immigrants even after Korea's liberation from Japan in 1945; and

3   WHEREAS, The Taedong Statue, located at Susan Bierman Park on the

4   Embarcadero, was donated in 1983 to the city of San Francisco by the government and

5   people of Korea to commemorate the centennial of diplomatic relations between Korea

6   and the United States and has since been continuously maintained by volunteers from the

7   San Francisco Korean seniors association (Korean American Senior Services, Inc.) for

8   the past 23 years; and

9   WHEREAS, The first Korean church in the United States, the San Francisco

10 Korean United Methodist Church, was built at 1123 Powell Street in 1928; and

11   WHEREAS, The composer, Ahn Eak-tai, went to his first service at this church and

12 was then inspired to compose what would become the Korean national anthem, Aegukga; and

13   WHEREAS, The Korean American community's contributions are immeasurable

14 despite facing serious economic obstacles and social barriers; and

15   WHEREAS, The Korean Center, Inc., a non-profit, has served as a hub for Korean

16 cultural, educational, and social services in the San Francisco Bay Area since 1974; and

17   WHEREAS, Since its founding nearly 50 years ago, the Korean Center, Inc. has

18 helped newly arrived Korean immigrants, Korean families, and Korean seniors realize

19 their full potential, build community, and share Korean culture in San Francisco; and

20   WHEREAS, Expressed the need for the recognition of Korean Chuseok Day to

21 bring attention to the continued needs of the underserved Korean American community

22 as well as the contributions of Korean culture to the diverse landscape and life of San

23 Francisco; now, therefore, be it

24   RESOLVED, the City and County of San Francisco shall recognize September 10,

25 2022, which is the 15th day of the 8th month of the Lunar Calendar as Korean Chuseok

1 Day; and, be it

2   FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Annual Bay Area Korean Chuseok Festival held

3 by the Korean Center, Inc. in San Francisco is recognized as the city's official celebration

4 of the cultural day.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25