

1 [Celebrating Diwali - October 20, 2025]

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3 **Resolution celebrating Diwali on October 20, 2025, in the City and County of San**
4 **Francisco and honoring the South Asian community for its enduring contributions to**
5 **the City and reaffirms its commitment to promoting equity, inclusion, and cultural**
6 **celebration for all San Franciscans.**

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8 WHEREAS, Diwali, also known by its many names including Deepavali, Dipawali,
9 Tihar, Bandhi Chhor Divas, and Kartik Purnima, is one the most sacred and joyous festivals
10 celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and others; and

11 WHEREAS, Diwali symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness, hope over despair,
12 and knowledge over ignorance; and

13 WHEREAS, Diwali is celebrated by millions of people across the world, including
14 thousands of San Franciscans of South Asian descent, with vibrant traditions such as lighting
15 diyas (lamps), decorating homes, sharing sweets, and gathering with family and community;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The festival of Diwali promotes universal values of peace, prosperity, and
18 the triumph of hope, and serves as a time for reflection, renewal, and unity; and

19 WHEREAS, Parivar Bay Area, founded in 2019, has become a leader in South Asian
20 cultural preservation and community engagement, hosting cultural gatherings, performances,
21 and programs that celebrate the South Asian diaspora; and

22 WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom has signed Assembly Bill 268 (Kalra) into law,
23 designating Diwali as an official state holiday and affirming the festival's significance to
24 millions of Californians and its role as a day of cultural pride, reflection, and unity; and

1 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco recognizes the importance of
2 fostering inclusivity, cultural understanding, and respect for the diverse traditions that make
3 the City vibrant and strong; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
5 hereby celebrates Diwali on October 20, 2025 and extends warm wishes for a joyful and
6 prosperous festival to all who observe it; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board honors the South Asian community for its
8 enduring contributions to the City and reaffirms its commitment to promoting equity, inclusion,
9 and cultural celebration for all San Franciscans.