

1 [Urging Congress to Provide Relief to Restaurants and the State of California to Allow
2 Outdoor Dining As Soon As Possible]

3 **Resolution urging the United States Congress to provide immediate cash relief to**
4 **restaurants and urging the State of California to allow outdoor dining as soon as the**
5 **latest available medical data and expertise deem it safe to do so.**

6
7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco, the State of California, and the
8 United States of America have declared states of emergency in response to the COVID-19
9 pandemic, which has claimed the lives of over 300,000 Americans and caused illness in more
10 than 16 million more; and

11 WHEREAS, On December 4, 2020, due to an alarming increase in COVID-19 cases,
12 test positivity rates, and hospitalizations, the City joined Bay Area counties in preemptively
13 adopting the State’s Regional Stay at Home Order, which came into effect on December 6,
14 2020, and, among other services and facilities, mandated closures of outdoor recreation
15 centers; outdoor museums, zoos, and aquariums; outdoor and indoor personal care services;
16 and outdoor dining; and

17 WHEREAS, As of December 14, 2020, the City has counted 18,645 positive cases of
18 and 167 deaths due to COVID-19; and

19 WHEREAS, The measures required to slow the spread of COVID-19 and minimize the
20 loss of life have also resulted in severe economic impacts for the City’s small business sector,
21 with the restaurant industry, which employs 60,000 workers in San Francisco, among the
22 hardest hit; and

23 WHEREAS, In addition to the limited grants the City is able to provide and previous
24 federal efforts, including the Paycheck Protection Program, restaurants need an infusion of
25

1 funding in the form of immediate cash subsidies, and the federal government is in a unique
2 position to provide this much-needed assistance; and

3 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has previously passed a
4 resolution urging the United States Congress to pass the Real Economic Support that
5 Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or RESTAURANTS Act,
6 to support the nation’s struggling restaurants; and

7 WHEREAS, The Congress has heretofore failed to pass such legislation, despite its
8 October 1, 2020, passage in the House of Representatives and continuous pleas from
9 restaurant owners and workers who require immediate and long-term assistance to continue
10 operating; and

11 WHEREAS, In the absence of immediate relief from the federal government, San
12 Francisco restaurants will continue to be forced to furlough or lay off their workers, further
13 exacerbating the ruinous economic impacts of this pandemic, which will be ameliorated only
14 upon the nation’s getting COVID-19 under control; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Congress to pass an emergency
16 funding bill that provides immediate cash relief to our restaurants and restaurant workers; and,
17 be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the State to allow
19 outdoor dining as soon as the latest available medical data and expertise deem it safe to do
20 so; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
22 to transmit copies of this Resolution to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Jackie Speier,
23 Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, Governor Gavin Newsom, and Dr. Tomás
24 Aragón.

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