

1 [Opposing Assembly Bill 1678 - Regarding Restrictions on Food Trucks' Proximity to Schools]

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3 **Resolution opposing California Assembly Bill 1678, regarding restrictions on food**
4 **trucks' proximity to schools.**

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6 WHEREAS, San Francisco, like any great urban center, has a thriving food scene, with
7 a diverse offering of restaurants, cafes, farmers markets, urban agriculture, and street food,
8 this diversity of food offerings constituting a key part of San Francisco's urban identity; and

9 WHEREAS, Food trucks are a part of this diversity of food options, allowing people to
10 purchase food in many locations, at various times of day, in a convenient, quick, and
11 affordable way; and

12 WHEREAS, Food trucks allow for ongoing food innovation, by quickly reflecting
13 changes in food culture and allowing entrepreneurs to experiment with different kinds of food;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Food trucks are a way for people without access to significant capital to
16 enter the food industry, and particularly for women and immigrant communities to start food-
17 related businesses; and

18 WHEREAS, Food trucks activate public spaces and encourage people to be outside in
19 public interacting with other people; and

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco has worked hard to balance the importance of food trucks
21 with the needs of neighborhoods and brick-and-mortar restaurants, in order to avoid undue
22 impacts and conflicts while encouraging food trucks to thrive, with a current ongoing process
23 to evaluate food truck regulations for possible updating; and

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1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has implemented its own regulations of food trucks’
2 proximity to schools, with the City currently engaged in a discussion about the appropriate
3 proximity rules in an urban environment; and

4 WHEREAS, Placement of food trucks, like many other zoning and planning issues, is a
5 local concern, with each locality having unique needs and priorities; and

6 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 1678, recently introduced in the California
7 Assembly, would impose a “one size fits all” approach to food truck placement throughout
8 urban, rural, and suburban California, without regard to unique local needs, specifically, by
9 requiring that all food trucks be located at least 1,500 feet from any high school, middle
10 school, or elementary school, a distance two and a half times greater than the state-
11 requirement that medical cannabis dispensaries be 600 feet from schools; and

12 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 1678 would override San Francisco’s regulations
13 of food truck proximity to schools, would dramatically reduce the locations available for food
14 trucks, would place some neighborhoods largely off-limits, and would result in an over-
15 concentration of food trucks in the few areas without schools, such as South of Market and
16 parts of Downtown and Union Square; and

17 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 1678 is a suburban-oriented Bill, given that in a
18 dense urban setting like San Francisco, 1,500 feet – the equivalent, on average, of three city
19 blocks – is a significant distance that will impact many people; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors opposes California
21 Assembly Bill 1678 and encourages the California Legislature to reject it; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if the California Legislature does proceed with California
23 Assembly Bill 1678, the bill should be amended either to exempt San Francisco or,
24 alternatively, to allow local jurisdictions to opt out in order to craft their own local regulations.
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