

1 [Supporting the Low-Income First-Time Homebuyers Act and Establishing a Municipal Bank]

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3 **Resolution supporting the Low-Income First-Time Homebuyers (LIFT) Act; urging the**
4 **Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to work with the Treasurer and**
5 **Tax Collector’s Office to identify ways to help low-income residents obtain low-interest**
6 **loans to purchase their first home; and urging the Treasurer and Tax Collector’s Office**
7 **to continue working with the Reinvest in San Francisco Working Group, the Board of**
8 **Supervisors, and the Local Agency Formation Commission to establish a Municipal**
9 **Bank in San Francisco.**

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11 WHEREAS, Home equity accumulation is one of the best ways to build generational
12 wealth for working class and middle class families across America; and

13 WHEREAS, Families of color have faced discrimination and exclusion from our nation’s
14 housing market due to racism and structural inequalities, preventing them from building equity
15 and security, and widening the racial wealth gap; and

16 WHEREAS, Senators Mark Warner (D-VA), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Rev. Raphael
17 Warnock (D-GA), Jon Ossoff (D-GA), and Tim Kaine (D-VA), introduced the Low-Income
18 First-Time Homebuyers (LIFT) Act with the goal of helping low-income, first-time home buyers
19 build equity quickly; and

20 WHEREAS, The Low-Income First-Time Homebuyers (LIFT) Act would create a new
21 20-year mortgage loan for first-time, first-generation homebuyers with median incomes less
22 than or equal to 120% of their area's median income; and

23 WHEREAS, The LIFT Act would create a program through the Department of Housing
24 and Urban Development and in partnership with the Treasury Department to subsidize
25 interest rates and origination fees associated with these 20-year mortgages, so that the

1 monthly payment would be in line with a new 30-year Federal Housing Agency (FHA)-backed
2 mortgage; and

3 WHEREAS, The similar monthly payments and accelerated amortization schedule
4 would allow qualified homebuyers in the program to build equity and wealth at twice the rate
5 of a conventional 30-year mortgage; and

6 WHEREAS, The LIFT Act aims to close a racial homeownership gap that has persisted
7 for decades, with the homeownership rate among black Americans plateauing about 42%,
8 while white American homeownership increased to around 73% in 2019, according to the
9 National Community Reinvestment Coalition; and

10 WHEREAS, The LIFT Act is specifically geared toward first-generation homebuyers,
11 addressing concerns of a bill being too broad and potentially resulting in minority homebuyers
12 getting pushed out of purchasing a home; and

13 WHEREAS, Blacks, Latinos, and Native Americans are underrepresented in California
14 mortgage lending and are more often rejected from bank loans; and

15 WHEREAS, Public banking efforts have highlighted opportunities for financial services
16 for underserved communities and invest in affordable housing; and

17 WHEREAS, On November 2019, former Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer introduced
18 legislation to set up a working group to create a business plan for the creation of a public
19 bank; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports the Low-Income
21 First-Time Homebuyers (LIFT) Act; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Mayor's Office of Housing and
23 Community Development to work with the Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office to identify
24 ways to help low-income residents obtain low-interest loans to purchase their first home; and,
25 be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office
2 to continue working with the Reinvest in San Francisco Working Group, the Board of
3 Supervisors, and the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) to establish a Municipal
4 Bank in San Francisco.

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