

1 [Designating Japantown as a Preserve America Neighborhood]

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3 **Resolution supporting the application for the designation of San Francisco's**  
4 **Japantown as a Preserve America Neighborhood**

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7 WHEREAS, *Preserve America* is a White House initiative developed in cooperation  
8 with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and  
9 the U.S. Department of Commerce; and

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WHEREAS, The goals of the *Preserve America* initiative include a greater shared  
knowledge about our nation's past, strengthened regional identities, and local pride,  
increased local participation in preserving the country's irreplaceable cultural and natural  
heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of communities; and,

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WHEREAS, San Francisco's Japantown, which is celebrating its centennial this year,  
is the oldest in the United States, and one of only three remaining in the United States; and,

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WHEREAS, Japantown is a city within a city with an identifiable main street on Post  
Street; major public gathering places, such as Peace Plaza; a commercial core found at the  
Japantown Center; areas with a high concentration of community cultural facilities, such as  
Sutter Street and the Buchanan Mall; entertainment and cinematic venues; and quiet  
residential districts; and,

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WHEREAS, The sale this year of two thirds of the major properties in Japantown  
served as a reminder of the fragility of San Francisco's communities in the face of our City's  
escalating property values; and,

1           WHEREAS, Designating Japantown as a *Preserve America* Neighborhood will improve  
2 the neighborhood's ability to protect and promote its historical resources; now, therefore, be it

3           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
4 supports the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California application for  
5 the designation of San Francisco's Japantown as a *Preserve America* Neighborhood, and, be  
6 it

7           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Advisory Council on  
8 Historic Preservation to grant the designation; and, be it

9           FURTHER RESOLVED, That on the occasion of Japantown's centennial, the Board of  
10 Supervisors celebrates Japantown's contributions to the cultural heritage of San Francisco  
11 and will remain vigilant in preserving Japantown's unique character for future generations.  
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