

1 [Jewish American Heritage Month - May 2026 - San Francisco Jewish Week - May 9 through
2 16, 2026]

3 **Resolution recognizing May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month; and May 9**
4 **through 16, 2026, as San Francisco Jewish Week in the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco.**

6
7 WHEREAS, Generations of Jewish Americans have enriched the cultural, civic, and
8 spiritual life of the United States and San Francisco from their earliest days; and

9 WHEREAS, In the mid-1800s, thousands of Jewish immigrants—many fleeing
10 persecution in Central Europe—arrived in a rapidly growing San Francisco during the Gold
11 Rush where they found opportunity, community, and acceptance; and

12 WHEREAS, In contrast to many other American cities where Jews faced deep
13 discrimination, San Francisco welcomed them as part of its founding story; and

14 WHEREAS, These early Jewish San Franciscans, free to build rather than assimilate
15 into existing power structures, became merchants, civic leaders, and philanthropists, shaping
16 the City alongside their neighbors; and

17 WHEREAS, By the 1870s, San Francisco had the second-largest Jewish population in
18 the U.S., and the City became known as the birthplace of a uniquely Western, secular, and
19 reform-minded Jewish identity; and

20 WHEREAS, Jewish institutions across San Francisco have laid the foundation for a
21 community that has continued to evolve—enriching diversity, civic responsibility, and a
22 commitment to justice, while maintaining deep cultural roots; and

23 WHEREAS, Throughout history and into the present day, Jewish communities have
24 faced persistent discrimination and violence, including a troubling rise in antisemitic rhetoric
25 and attacks across the United States in recent years; and

1 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco stands firmly against antisemitism
2 and all forms of hate, and reaffirms its commitment to being a safe, inclusive, and welcoming
3 City for people of all faiths, ethnicities, and identities; and

4 WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month, observed each May, is a longstanding
5 national tradition first proclaimed in 2006 and reaffirmed by every president since, recognizing
6 the more than 350 years of Jewish life, contribution, and community in America and serving
7 as an annual invitation for all Americans to learn from, celebrate, and take pride in the depth
8 and breadth of Jewish American heritage; and

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco Jewish Week, occurring in its second annual celebration
10 from May 9 through 16, 2026 is a vibrant, joyful, citywide celebration of Jewish culture,
11 community, and connection through food, music, culture, and family, bringing together a
12 diverse and wide range of Jewish identities, traditions, and backgrounds that reflect the full
13 spectrum of Jewish life in San Francisco, made possible through the dedicated sponsorship
14 and organization of Value Culture; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes the
16 month of May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month and May 9 through 16, 2026 as San
17 Francisco Jewish Week in the City and County of San Francisco and honors the contributions
18 and extraordinarily rich cultural legacy of Jewish Americans—celebrating centuries of Jewish
19 life, creativity, and community.