

[Supporting the Golden State Valkyries Players in Equal Pay Compensation]

Resolution supporting the Golden State Valkyries players and their fight for a fair collective bargaining agreement and equal compensation in the Women's National Basketball Association.

WHEREAS, The Golden State Valkyries were announced as the Women's National Basketball Association's (WNBA) 13th franchise in October 2023, bringing professional women's basketball back to the Bay Area for the first time in over two decades; and

WHEREAS, The Valkyries' debut season has garnered national media attention, sold-out games, and record-breaking merchandise sales, proving the viability and commercial strength of women's professional sports; and

WHEREAS, The Valkyries' branding, including the team's name, logo, and colors, intentionally reflects strength, empowerment, and a deep connection to Bay Area identity; and

WHEREAS, The Valkyries have quickly established themselves in the WNBA, setting a league record with ten consecutive sellouts at Chase Center; and

WHEREAS, The Valkyries are currently valued at \$500,000,000 the highest valuation in women's sports history and nearly double the WNBA's average team valuation of \$269,000,000 underscoring the players' immense business and cultural impact; and

WHEREAS, WNBA players currently earn a fraction of their NBA counterparts despite driving historic growth in media rights, sponsorships, and fan engagement for the league; and

WHEREAS, Many WNBA players are forced to play overseas in the offseason to supplement their incomes, often facing grueling travel schedules, increased injury risk, and even geopolitical danger; and

1 WHEREAS, WNBA players have consistently led the fight for equity in professional
2 sports, pushing for higher pay, better travel accommodations, maternity protections, and
3 investment in player health and safety; and

4 WHEREAS, The WNBA overall has experienced significant growth in attendance,
5 viewership, sponsorship, and social media reach, trends driven by the extraordinary skill,
6 dedication, and popularity of its players; and

7 WHEREAS, In October 2024, the Women's National Basketball Players Association
8 (WNBPA) exercised its right to opt out of the current collective bargaining agreement and has
9 initiated efforts to negotiate a new agreement that reflects the players' contributions to the
10 growing success of the league; and

11 WHEREAS, Valkyries players joined their peers across the league in calling for a new
12 agreement that enshrines principles of equity, fairness, and equal compensation, recognizing
13 their indispensable role in the growth and future of the WNBA; and

14 WHEREAS, During the 2025 WNBA All-Star Game, players from across the league,
15 including a member of the Golden State Valkyries, wore T-shirts reading "Pay Us What You
16 Owe Us," a powerful and public demand for economic justice and fair compensation; and

17 WHEREAS, This statement echoed years of advocacy by the WNBPA and resonated
18 across the sports world, drawing support from fellow athletes, labor leaders, and fans
19 demanding parity for women athletes; and

20 WHEREAS, The call for equal pay in women's basketball reflects broader movements
21 across women's sports, from soccer to hockey to tennis, where athletes are organizing for
22 contracts that reflect their value, labor, and success; and

23 WHEREAS, The WNBA has an exact salary cap that is set by the Collective Bargaining
24 Agreement Negotiation between the WNBA and the WNBPA (Women's National
25 Basketball Players Association) and determined based on projected income; and

1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area has long been a leader in advancing gender
2 equity and workers' rights and looks to continue our commitment to supporting fair treatment
3 and equitable compensation; and

4 WHEREAS, The Valkyries' success not only enriches the cultural fabric of San
5 Francisco, but also serves as a source of inspiration for countless young people, especially
6 girls and young women who see new possibilities for their own futures in sports and beyond;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
9 expresses its full support for the Golden State Valkyries players and their efforts to secure a
10 fair collective bargaining agreement through the WNBPA; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board commends the Valkyries for their exceptional
12 contributions to professional sports, to advancing gender equity, and to the cultural Vibrancy
13 of San Francisco; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors joins calls for the Women's
15 National Basketball Association to ensure that the next collective bargaining agreement
16 reflects the full economic and cultural value WNBA players bring to the league and its future;
17 and to secure the resources, protections, and compensations that honor their essential role in
18 shaping the future of professional basketball.



City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 250785

Date Passed: July 29, 2025

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July 29, 2025 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE
BEARING NEW TITLE

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar,
Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

July 29, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar,
Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250785

I hereby certify that the foregoing
Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on
7/29/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the
City and County of San Francisco.

f Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

8/8/2025

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

f Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

8/8/2025

Date