

1 [Supporting the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corp]

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3 **Resolution supporting and recognizing the importance of the Junior Reserve Officers'**
4 **Training Corps program and encouraging the San Francisco Unified School District to**
5 **continue to provide high school students the opportunity to participate and ensure the**
6 **program is preserved as currently constituted.**

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8 WHEREAS, The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) is a program
9 sponsored by the United States Army in high schools across the country, with the mission of
10 motivating young people to become better citizens; and

11 WHEREAS, JROTC has existed in the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)
12 for over 90 years, and SFUSD currently operates JROTC programs at six high schools -
13 Balboa, Galileo, Lincoln, Lowell, Mission, and Washington - serving over 900 students
14 enrolled in JROTC classes and providing Physical Education Independent Study options for
15 over 600 students; and

16 WHEREAS, The JROTC curriculum teaches leadership, communication, self-
17 awareness, first aid, conflict management, map reading, service learning/community service,
18 physical training, government structure, and other topics such as finance and business, and
19 the program fulfills various college preparatory requirements; and

20 WHEREAS, SFUSD's JROTC programs have received national honors in a variety of
21 disciplines, cadets regularly participate in public events and collectively complete tens of
22 thousands of community service hours each year, and cadets report viewing their JROTC
23 community as a "second family" and as a safe environment where they feel accepted and
24 belong; and

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1 WHEREAS, JROTC does not recruit, encourage, or coerce cadets into joining the
2 Army or any other military branch, and the cost of JROTC programs is shared equally
3 between the Army and the local school district; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2006, the San Francisco Board of Education voted to phase out JROTC
5 over a three-year period and later voted to delay this action, and at the November 2008
6 election, San Francisco voters approved Proposition V, a ballot measure that declared it to be
7 City policy that JROTC continue to be available in SFUSD high schools; and

8 WHEREAS, Following a period of limited funding, SFUSD and the Army partnered to
9 restore full staffing at all six JROTC programs, and enrollment has grown significantly - from
10 350 students in 2022-2023 to over 900 students today; and

11 WHEREAS, Army regulations require that every JROTC program maintain at least two
12 instructors to remain in compliance, and adequate funding is essential to preserve these
13 programs for San Francisco students; and

14 WHEREAS, JROTC programs require unique military credentials for instructors and
15 face a nationwide waiting list of high schools seeking to establish programs, making it
16 essential to maintain adequate funding to preserve San Francisco's programs; now, therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the importance of
19 the JROTC program and encourages SFUSD to continue to provide high school students the
20 opportunity to participate in JROTC and to ensure the program remains fully operational, so
21 that students may continue to choose JROTC as an academic elective and co-curricular
22 activity; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City recognizes JROTC as a voluntary program
24 offering benefits in character development, citizenship education, leadership training, college
25 and career readiness, and community service; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco support the
2 continued availability and funding of JROTC programs in local public high schools.

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