

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Adam Thongsavat, Office of the Mayor  
Sarah Dennis-Phillips, Executive Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

FROM: Monique Crayton, Assistant Clerk, Government Audit and Oversight Committee

DATE: April 29, 2025

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Government Audit and Oversight Committee has received the following Resolution request, introduced on April 22, 2025:

**File No. 250430**

**Resolution authorizing the Mayor, members of the Mayor's Office, and the Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to solicit donations from nonprofits, private organizations, grantmakers, foundations, and other persons and entities for the purpose of supporting the continued economic revitalization of San Francisco, for six months from the effective date of this Resolution, notwithstanding the Behested Payment Ordinance.**

If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: [monique.crayton@sfgov.org](mailto:monique.crayton@sfgov.org).

CC:  
Office of Chair Fielder  
Anne Taupier, Office of Economic and Workforce Development  
Alesandra Lozano, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

1 [Behested Payment Waiver - Economic Revitalization Efforts]

2  
3 **Resolution authorizing the Mayor, members of the Mayor's Office, and the Director of**  
4 **the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to solicit donations from**  
5 **nonprofits, private organizations, grantmakers, foundations, and other persons and**  
6 **entities for the purpose of supporting the continued economic revitalization of San**  
7 **Francisco, for six months from the effective date of this Resolution, notwithstanding**  
8 **the Behested Payment Ordinance.**  
9

10 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a beautiful and historic downtown area that has long  
11 been a connective hub for business, culture, and innovation; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco's downtown area is vital to the City's overall health and  
13 vibrancy – many residents work, transact business, or live in the area, and it remains a  
14 popular destination for both domestic and international visitors; and

15 WHEREAS, San Francisco and its downtown area have faced unprecedented  
16 challenges resulting in part from the Covid-19 pandemic, including a rise in homelessness, the  
17 closure of businesses, an increased number of residents living in or near poverty, a lack of  
18 affordable housing, and residents relocating out of the City; and

19 WHEREAS, While the City has in place numerous policies and initiatives aimed at  
20 encouraging a thriving economy in the downtown area and beyond, more resources are  
21 urgently needed to make sure the downtown area can be clean, safe, and thriving; and

22 WHEREAS, The City is aware of various charitable public benefit corporations, such as  
23 the San Francisco Downtown Development Corporation, that aim to help revitalize San  
24 Francisco and specifically its downtown area, to ensure that residents, businesses, and  
25

1 visitors have a safe, clean, dynamic, economically vibrant, and innovative place to live, work,  
2 play, and conduct business; and

3 WHEREAS, These nonprofit entities generally intend to accomplish this mission by  
4 making the City safer and more welcoming for residents and visitors, ensuring and  
5 maintaining clean public spaces, increasing foot traffic for local businesses, enhancing cultural  
6 and arts programming, using financial resources to support local businesses and projects, and  
7 researching and implementing other measures aimed at revitalizing the City and its downtown  
8 area, including projects in partnership with the City and projects that may become owned or  
9 maintained by the City; and

10 WHEREAS, These nonprofit entities are fundraising for these efforts, and the City is  
11 generally supportive of these efforts and their potential; and

12 WHEREAS, In the past, the City has collaborated with other nonprofit organizations,  
13 private entities, grantmakers, foundations, and other entities, including through contracts or  
14 grants or permits; and

15 WHEREAS, The Mayor seeks a six-month waiver of the City's Behested Payment  
16 Ordinance (Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code, Section 3.600 et seq.) on his own  
17 behalf, and on behalf of the Mayor's Chief of Staff, Chief of Infrastructure, Climate and  
18 Mobility, Chief of Housing and Economic Development, Chief of Public Health,  
19 Homelessness, and Family Services, Chief of Public Safety, Policy Advisor, Director of  
20 Community Affairs, Assistant Chiefs of Climate and Mobility, Assistant Chiefs of Housing and  
21 Economic Development, Assistant Chiefs of Health, Homelessness, and Family Services,  
22 Assistant Chiefs of Public Safety, and the Director of the City's Office of Economic and  
23 Workforce Development (OEWD), to the extent it restricts or prohibits any of them from  
24 soliciting financial support or in-kind goods or services for nonprofit entities working to  
25 revitalize San Francisco's downtown; and

1           WHEREAS, The Mayor's Office and OEWD have agreed to report to the Board of  
2 Supervisors donations that were solicited under this waiver, identifying the donors and the  
3 amounts donated and the interested party relationship the donor has with the Mayor's Office  
4 or OEWD, and will submit this report to the Board within 60 days of the expiration of the six-  
5 month period authorized by this waiver; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That under Section 3.620(f) of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct  
7 Code, the Board of Supervisors hereby waives application of the Behested Payment  
8 Ordinance as to the Mayor and as to the Mayor's Chief of Staff, Chief of Infrastructure,  
9 Climate and Mobility, Chief of Housing and Economic Development, Chief of Public Health,  
10 Homelessness, and Family Services, Chief of Public Safety, Policy Advisor, Director of  
11 Community Affairs, Assistant Chiefs of Climate and Mobility, Assistant Chiefs of Housing and  
12 Economic Development, Assistant Chiefs of Health, Homelessness, and Family Services,  
13 Assistant Chiefs of Public Safety, and the Director of the City's Office of Economic and  
14 Workforce Development (OEWD), for six months from the effective date of this Resolution, to  
15 solicitations of financial support or in-kind goods or services from nonprofits, private  
16 organizations, grantmakers, foundations, and other persons and entities to support the work  
17 of nonprofit entities to help revitalize San Francisco including its downtown area; and, be it

18           FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver serves the public interest by helping  
19 revitalize San Francisco, to make San Francisco including its downtown area a better place to  
20 live, work, play, visit, and conduct business, now and in the months and years to come; and,  
21 be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver does not create an appearance of  
23 impropriety.