

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco 94102-4689  
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184  
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TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227


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MEMORANDUM

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Date: November 17, 2023  
To: John Arntz, Director  
From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors  
Subject: Urging Report on Implementation of Assembly Bill No. 57 - Names of Candidates (File No. 231119)

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On October 31, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 526-23, sponsored by Supervisor Connie Chan (File No. 231119, Urging Report on Implementation of Assembly Bill No. 57 - Names of Candidates); and enacted on November 10, 2023.

Please find the attached courtesy copy of the Resolution for your office's information and consideration.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184.

c: Members of the Board of Supervisors; Supervisors Connie Chan,  
Shamann Walton, Hillary Ronen  
Tom Paulino, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors  
Andres Power, Mayor's Policy Director  
Susanna Conine-Nakano, Mayor's Office

FILE NO. 231119

RESOLUTION NO. 526-23

1 [Urging Report on Implementation of Assembly Bill No. 57 - Names of Candidates]

2  
3 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Department of Elections to report back on the**  
4 **implementation of Assembly Bill No. 57 (Low) for the 2024 elections.**

5  
6 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Evan Low passed Assembly Bill No. 57 (AB 57) in  
7 2019, which allows candidates with birth names in character-based languages, such as  
8 Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, to use those names in voter requested translated ballots;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Candidates that do not have a character-based name by birth must use  
11 phonetic translation but may use particular character-based names if they can demonstrate  
12 that they have been publicly known by and identified by that name over the past two years;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Department, in Municipal Elections Code,  
15 Section 401, requires documentary evidence demonstrating established use of a particular  
16 translation or transliteration of candidate names, but the Director of Elections has the final  
17 decision on which translation shall be final; and

18 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Department has insisted that AB 57 does not  
19 apply to city's local races, forgoing the requirement that candidates prove the two-year  
20 established use and verification; and

21 WHEREAS, The 2024 primary and general elections in San Francisco will feature an  
22 unprecedented number of local candidates seeking office on the ballot, many of whom will be  
23 submitting self-selected translated names; and

24 WHEREAS, The 2024 presidential primary and general elections are anticipated to be  
25 high turnout elections, which means there will be an increase in requests for in-language

1 ballots including Chinese, and it is important to ensure voters have correct information on the  
2 ballots and voter information pamphlets; now, therefore, be it

3           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
4 urges the San Francisco Department of Elections report back to the Board of Supervisors on  
5 its implementation of AB 57 for the 2024 elections by the end of November 2023.

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**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Tails**  
**Resolution**

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

**File Number:** 231119

**Date Passed:** October 31, 2023

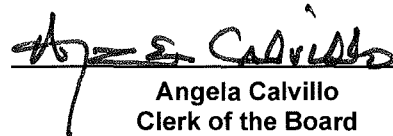
Resolution urging the San Francisco Department of Elections to report back on the implementation of Assembly Bill No. 57 (Low) for the 2024 elections.

October 31, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton  
Excused: 1 - Preston

File No. 231119

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/31/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

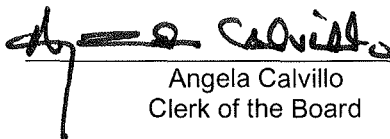
**Unsigned**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**London N. Breed**  
Mayor

**11/10/2023**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**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 her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

**11/10/2023**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date