

1 [Protecting Academic Freedom and Condemning Attacks on Higher Education]

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3 **Resolution condemning the Trump Administration's attacks on higher education, and**
4 **affirming the City and County of San Francisco's commitment to protecting higher**
5 **education from political interference.**
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7 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to a diverse and robust community of students,
8 educators, and institutions of higher education, including public and private universities,
9 community colleges, graduate schools, research institutions, and more; and

10 WHEREAS, The Trump Administration has repeatedly and aggressively undermined
11 institutions of higher education by withholding federal funding to advance its own political
12 agenda that includes dismantling diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, suppressing
13 student speech and protest, attacking transgender students, restricting scientific research on
14 issues such as public health and climate change, and threatening the rights and safety of
15 international students; and

16 WHEREAS, These actions threaten not only the United States' status as a world leader
17 in research and innovation but also the fundamental American principles of academic
18 freedom, diversity, freedom of speech, peaceful protest, and privacy, which should never be
19 compromised for political gain; and

20 WHEREAS, Academic freedom is essential to our nation, and ideologically motivated
21 political pressure has no legitimate role in admissions, hiring, employment, or the content of
22 the curriculum; and

23 WHEREAS, Our higher education system is a global leader in lifesaving discoveries
24 that drives innovation, economic growth, and job creation, and funding for research should be
25 based strictly on scientific and professional merit and withdrawn only after due process; and,

1 WHEREAS, Diverse backgrounds and experiences are vital to learning, research, and
2 education, and access to higher education should remain accessible to all; and

3 WHEREAS, Higher education must uphold freedom of speech, peaceful protest,
4 privacy, and all constitutional rights, ensuring college campuses remain forums for open
5 debate and discussion, not a place where ideas are silenced; and

6 WHEREAS, A competitive economy requires the best global talent, and foreign-born
7 students who become foreign-born workers improve the wages and productivity of workers at
8 all skill levels throughout the economy; and

9 WHEREAS, The City of Los Angeles has passed a Resolution condemning the Trump
10 Administration's assault on higher education, and other jurisdictions in California are currently
11 considering similar Resolutions; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
13 condemn the Trump Administration's attacks on higher education and intellectual freedom;
14 and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
16 to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of California, California's Congressional
17 delegation, the President of the University of California, the Chancellor of the California State
18 University, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and the governing boards of
19 the University of California and California State systems urging them to stand in solidarity with
20 institutions of higher learning in defense of academic freedom and constitutional rights.