

1 [Jewish American Heritage Month - May 2023]

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3 **Resolution recognizing the month of May 2023 as Jewish American Heritage Month in**
4 **the City and County of San Francisco, in appreciation of the achievements and**
5 **contributions made by members of the Jewish community.**

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7 WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have been an important part of the American story and
8 have greatly contributed to all areas of American life and culture since our nation’s earliest
9 days; and

10 WHEREAS, On April 20, 2006, the Federal Government proclaimed May as Jewish
11 American Heritage Month, stating, “As a nation of immigrants, the United States is better and
12 stronger because Jewish people from all over the world have chosen to become American
13 citizens,” and, since then, proclamations in support of Jewish American Heritage Month have
14 been made by Presidents of the United States annually; and

15 WHEREAS, Generations of Jews have fled to the United States in search of a better
16 life for themselves and their families, and these immigrants made invaluable contributions in
17 support of equality and civil rights through their leadership and achievements; and

18 WHEREAS, Jewish Americans connect to their Jewish identity in a variety of ways,
19 such as culturally, ethnically, religiously and by following Jewish ethics and values; and

20 WHEREAS, Jewish Americans are racially, ethnically, socially, politically and
21 economically diverse, with approximately 12-15 percent of Jews in the United States being
22 individuals of color; and

23 WHEREAS, In the Bay Area around 25 percent of Bay Area Jewish households include
24 a person of color, and this increases to nearly 40 percent of households if the head of the
25 household is younger than 35; and

1 WHEREAS, In recent years, Jewish Americans have increasingly experienced
2 antisemitism, including but not limited to physical attacks, vandalism, verbal and physical
3 harassment, and hateful comments posted on social media; and

4 WHEREAS, San Francisco shares an obligation to condemn and combat antisemitism
5 wherever it exists, to include Jewish Americans in all facets of civic life, and to stand with the
6 Jewish American community against hatred or bigotry in our city and country; and

7 WHEREAS, There is a need for education and policies that are culturally competent
8 when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Jewish in all aspects of
9 American society, including discourse and policy; and

10 WHEREAS, The City celebrates the rich and diverse heritage of the Jewish American
11 community, including those who live, work and play in San Francisco; and

12 WHEREAS, The City recognizes Jewish American commitment to civic engagement
13 and how San Francisco has been enriched by local Jewish institutions and synagogues such
14 as Congregations Emanu-El, B'nai Emunah, Beth Israel Judea, Sha'ar Zahav, Ner Tamid, the
15 Jewish Community Relations Council, Chabad of San Francisco, SF Hillel, the Jewish
16 Community High School of the Bay, the Jewish Film Institute, and others; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco hereby declares the month of May 2023 as
18 Jewish American Heritage Month in appreciation of the achievements and contributions made
19 by members of the Jewish community; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors calls upon all residents to celebrate
21 Jewish Americans who have woven the fabric of our country and community, and supports
22 opportunities to learn more about Jewish American history and culture; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco will continue efforts to confront
24 antisemitism and other forms of hate impacting the Jewish community, support local
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1 education about the diversity of our Jewish American community, and integrate Jewish
2 American culture into future programs, activities, and ceremonies throughout the year.

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