

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 17 (Pan) - California Office of Racial Equity Bill]

2

3 **Resolution supporting California Senate Bill No. 17, authored by Senator Richard Pan,**
4 **to establish the Office of Racial Equity and the Racial Equity Advisory and**
5 **Accountability Council.**

6

7 WHEREAS, People of color, particularly Black and Indigenous people, have
8 experienced centuries of systemic, institutionalized racism, exacerbated by the COVID-19
9 pandemic, that has had a disproportionate impact on these populations, women, and other
10 historically underserved communities; and

11 WHEREAS, For California to deliver meaningful, equitable outcomes, equity must be
12 explicit and centered in any approach to address disparity and not treated as an afterthought
13 or as a siloed strategy; and

14 WHEREAS, The deep racial inequities that currently exist in our institutions are not
15 coincidental, but are the product of decades of discriminatory policies and practices; and

16 WHEREAS, Governments and public agencies have played a direct role in creating
17 and maintaining these inequities, and therefore should have a direct role in eliminating them;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors, with the leadership of
20 Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer, established the Office of Racial Equality in July 2019 to
21 address the City’s growing racial disparities and address the history of structural and
22 institutional racism in San Francisco by enacting a citywide Racial Equity Framework,
23 directing Departments of the City and County of San Francisco to implement Racial Equity
24 Action Plans, analyzing the disparate impacts of official policies, providing technical

25

1 assistance to advance racial equity strategies, and collecting demographics on workforce by
2 race; and

3 WHEREAS, In recent years, the state of California has acknowledged that racial
4 disparities exist and has made efforts to confront them, however fundamentally addressing
5 these disparities requires a consciously designed mechanism to identify and correct
6 inequities, and active efforts to dismantle racial inequities, particularly those exacerbated by
7 the COVID-19 pandemic; and

8 WHEREAS, The Office of Racial Equity and the Racial Equity Advisory and
9 Accountability Council creates a framework to identify existing policies and practices in the
10 state that contribute to, uphold, or exacerbate racial disparities and develop proposals to
11 address these disparities; to analyze, develop, evaluate, report on, and recommend strategies
12 for advancing racial equity across state agencies, departments, and the Office of the
13 Governor; to develop a Racial Equity Framework for the State and directs agency Secretaries
14 to develop, adopt and implement Racial Equity Action Plans; and to create a budget equity
15 assessment tool to determine whether budget requests and annual allocations benefit or
16 burden communities of color; and

17 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 17 will help our State practice equity and turn our commitment
18 equity into actionable strategies in our immediate response to the crisis of the pandemic, our
19 recovery efforts, and as the world reshapes the global economy; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
21 endorses Senate Bill 17, the California Office of Racial Equity Bill; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit this
23 Resolution to the State Legislature.

24

25