

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 617 (Wiener) - Residential Solar Energy Systems:
2 Permitting]

3

4 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 617, Residential Solar Energy**
5 **Systems: Permitting, introduced by Senator Scott Wiener, that would direct**
6 **jurisdictions of a certain size to implement automated permitting for small residential**
7 **rooftop solar systems, and calls for the California Energy Commission to establish a**
8 **grant program that would provide resources for cities and counties to do this.**

9

10 WHEREAS, Existing law requires a city or county to administratively approve
11 applications to install solar energy systems through the issuance of a building permit or similar
12 nondiscretionary permit; and

13 WHEREAS, Existing Law requires every city, county, or city and county, to develop a
14 streamlined permitting process for the installation of small residential rooftop solar energy
15 systems; and

16 WHEREAS, Existing law prescribes and limits permit fees that a city or county may
17 charge for a residential and commercial solar energy system; and

18 WHEREAS, This bill would require every city and county to implement an online,
19 automated permitting platform that verifies code compliance and instantaneously issues
20 permits for a solar energy system that is no larger than 38.4 kilowatts alternating current
21 nameplate rating and an energy storage system paired with solar energy system that is no
22 larger than 38.4 kilowatts alternating current nameplate rating, as specified; and

23 WHEREAS, Making it easier and cheaper to put solar panels on more roofs, can
24 accelerate transition to 100% clean energy, increase local climate resilience and create more
25 jobs; and

1 WHEREAS, A number of jurisdictions in California already offer automated permitting
2 (like San Jose and Los Angeles) with great success, but they developed those systems their
3 own expense; and

4 WHEREAS, The federal government has now built a software platform, called
5 SolarAPP, that is free for any jurisdiction to adopt; and

6 WHEREAS, With SB 617, jurisdictions can leverage the resources and technological
7 solution to make automated permitting much more widespread; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Board
9 of Supervisors supports Senate Bill No. 617, which would direct jurisdictions of a certain size
10 to implement automated permitting for small residential rooftop solar systems, and its call for
11 the California Energy Commission to establish a grant program that would provide resources
12 for cities and counties to do this; be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and
14 County of San Francisco distribute this resolution to San Francisco's State Legislative
15 Delegation and to California Governor Gavin Newsom.

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25