

1 [South Asian American Heritage Month - July 18 through August 17, 2025]

2
3 **Resolution declaring July 18, 2025, through August 17, 2025, as South Asian American**
4 **Heritage Month in the City and County of San Francisco; and affirming the cultural,**
5 **religious, and linguistic richness within the South Asian community, and recognizing**
6 **this pluralism as a source of strength that contributes to San Francisco’s identity as an**
7 **open, inclusive, and forward-looking city.**
8

9 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is home to a vibrant and growing
10 South Asian community, including both recent immigrants and multi-generational South Asian
11 Americans, with ancestral roots in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives,
12 Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, each contributing meaningfully to the city’s civic, cultural, and
13 economic fabric; and

14 WHEREAS, South Asian immigrants and South Asian Americans presence in San
15 Francisco preceded the 1849 Gold Rush, making significant contributions to San Francisco
16 through their leadership and work in small business, technology, education, healthcare, law,
17 arts, transportation, hospitality, public service, and community advocacy and solidarity with
18 other immigrant communities including in times when the U.S. government turned against its
19 own citizens and interned Japanese Americans in concentration camps during World War II;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Members of the South Asian community live and work across
22 neighborhoods and districts throughout San Francisco, contributing to the city’s economic
23 vitality through small businesses, restaurants, family-run stores, professional services, and
24 innovation-driven industries, while enriching the cultural and civic fabric of the city; and
25

1 WHEREAS, The South Asian community has also faced significant challenges,
2 including exclusion under early U.S. immigration laws, racial and religious discrimination,
3 surveillance, and xenophobia, most notably in the early 1900's and the onslaught of structural
4 Islamophobia and broad racist sentiment that followed the attacks of September 11, 2001,
5 which defined an entire era of history, as well as ongoing anti-Sikh and anti-Hindu
6 discrimination that have impacted South Asian communities across lines of faith and identity,
7 yet has continued to organize, build coalitions, and fight for equity, justice, and full civic
8 inclusion; and

9 WHEREAS, South Asians in San Francisco have been at the forefront of advocacy for
10 immigrant rights, gender equity, LGBTQIA+ representation, workers' protections, amongst
11 other issues, often working across racial, religious, and ethnic lines to build a more inclusive
12 city; and

13 WHEREAS, This resolution affirms the cultural, religious, and linguistic richness within
14 the South Asian community and recognizes this pluralism as a source of strength that
15 contributes to San Francisco's identity as an open, inclusive, and forward-looking city; and

16 WHEREAS, The period from July 18, 2025, through August 17, 2025, marks historically
17 significant dates in South Asian history, including the Indian Independence Act (July 18,
18 1947), the partition of India and Pakistan (August 17, 1947), and the Independence Days of
19 the Maldives (July 26), Bhutan (August 8), Pakistan (August 14), India (August 15), and
20 Afghanistan (August 19), making this month a deeply meaningful time to honor both the
21 histories and continued presence of South Asians in San Francisco; and

22 WHEREAS, recognizing South Asian American Heritage Month reaffirms the City and
23 County of San Francisco's commitment to honoring the contributions, visibility, and lived
24 experiences of South Asian residents; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares July 18,
2 2025, through August 17, 2025 as South Asian American Heritage Month in the City and
3 County of San Francisco; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board honors the past and present contributions of
5 South Asian immigrants and South Asian Americans and reaffirms its dedication to
6 representation, belonging, and opportunity for all communities in San Francisco.