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

Resolution declaring July 18, 2025, through August 17, 2025, as South Asian American
Heritage Month in the City and County of San Francisco; and affirming the cultural,
religious, and linguistic richness within the South Asian community, and recognizing
this pluralism as a source of strength that contributes to San Francisco's identity as an

7 open, inclusive, and forward-looking city.

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

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

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

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

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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.
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