

1 [Urging a Moratorium on Redemption Center Closures]

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3 **Resolution urging for a moratorium on redemption center closures in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco; and for supermarkets in San Francisco and the State agency**
5 **CalRecycle to meet their statutory obligations by convening with the Department of the**
6 **Environment to find solutions for a more evenly distributed network of recycling**
7 **centers and ensure that a recycling center is located in their parking lots or redemption**
8 **recycling is provided immediately nearby.**

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10 WHEREAS, The California Recycling and Litter Reduction Act of 1986, AB 2020 (the
11 "Bottle Bill"), levies a deposit on bottles and cans; and

12 WHEREAS, The "Bottle Bill" requires the City to provide all San Franciscans with
13 convenient means to redeem recyclables, a requirement not met by curbside-pick up alone;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, State law requires the location of redemption centers for bottles and cans
16 every half mile, and such centers have proven effective in reducing landfill and reducing litter
17 on city streets and parks; and

18 WHEREAS, Redemption centers are the only way for the public to get their California
19 Redemption Value (CRV) back; and

20 WHEREAS, 88% of CRV bottles and cans are recycled at redemption centers, and

21 WHEREAS, If a supermarket site lacks a redemption center, it places a requirement on
22 all beverage dealers to take back beverage containers in store; and

23 WHEREAS, The Public Resources Code require cities to maintain network of
24 redemption centers or risk or risk losing their City and County Payment, which for the FY2013-
25 2014, the City of San Francisco received \$215,124; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a policy of Zero Waste by 2020; and

2 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco lacks a comprehensive system for
3 redemption recycling, which would complement the curbside recycling program and bring the
4 City closer to its goal of zero waste by the year 2020, a component which, according to the
5 Director of the Department of the Environment, is an "integral" part of reaching zero waste;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Of the twelve existing independent redemption centers in San Francisco,
8 eight reside on the east side of San Francisco in Supervisorial District 10, disproportionately
9 burdening the district while failing to provide equitable access for San Franciscans to
10 independent recycling centers to redeem the CRV; and

11 WHEREAS, Statewide Only 8% of beverage containers are recycled at curbside,
12 making curbside complementary to recycling centers and cannot take the place of redemption
13 centers; and

14 WHEREAS, Installing reverse vending machines has not been analyzed in terms either
15 the impacts on current grocery stores or merchants that would be required to implement in-
16 store redemption or an analysis of the siting, implementation, or the street-level efficacy of the
17 policy; and

18 WHEREAS, The only way for public trash can recycling to occur is for people to empty
19 the recycling tops and take the material to recycling centers; and

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco has over 100,000 people living in poverty that need to be
21 able to conveniently redeem their bottles and cans; and

22 WHEREAS, San Francisco has fewer redemption centers per capita than any other city
23 in the State; and

24 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Department of the Environment, in its recent Request For
25 Qualifications for a City redemption center operator, has called for all the currently operating

1 redemption centers to remain open while a distributed network of centers has time to be
2 rebuilt; and

3 WHEREAS, Seven redemption centers have been evicted in the last eighteen months;
4 now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges
6 Safeway to immediately cease the eviction of redemption centers, including the redemption
7 center at 2020 Market Street; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
9 Francisco, through the Mayor's office and the Department of the Environment, shall explore
10 solutions for a more evenly distributed network of redemption centers; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
12 Francisco urges all supermarkets in the city to fulfill their statutory obligation to ensure that a
13 redemption center is located on their parking lot.

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