

1 [Opposing California State Assembly Bill 2989 (Flora) - Standup Electric Scooters]

2 **Resolution opposing California State Assembly Bill 2989, authored by Assembly**  
3 **Member Heath Flora, which would increase the speed limit, triple the wattage, repeal**  
4 **the helmet requirement, and permit use of standup electric scooters on sidewalks.**  
5

6 WHEREAS, On February 16, 2018, California State Assembly Member Heath Flora (R-  
7 12) introduced Assembly Bill 1989 (“AB-2989”) which would, if passed, deregulate standup  
8 electric scooters to triple the permitted wattage from 250 to 750 watts, to increase their speed  
9 from 15 to 20 miles per hour, and to repeal the helmet requirement for non-minors; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, AB-2989 would also allow standup electric scooters to be operated on  
12 sidewalks, shifting the burden to local authorities to adopt rules and regulations prohibiting or  
13 restricting persons from riding or propelling a standup electric scooter on sidewalks or other  
14 public rights of way; and

15 WHEREAS, These proposed amendments to the California Vehicle Code are being  
16 proposed at the same time as multiple proprietors of standup electric scooters are deploying  
17 their products in major urban areas across the state of California; and

18 WHEREAS, Since the arrival of standup electric scooters in San Diego in February  
19 2018, police have indicated that they are cracking down on user behavior deemed illegal by  
20 the California Vehicle Code, including rampant use on sidewalks and without helmets; and

21 WHEREAS, In Santa Monica, the launch of standup electric scooters in defiance of  
22 local ordinance caused prosecutors in the Santa Monica City Attorney’s Office to file a  
23 criminal complaint against one of those proprietors seeking administrative citation fines  
24 totaling over six million dollars; and  
25

1           WHEREAS, Anticipating the potentially imminent launch of standup electric scooters in  
2 San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors in early March initiated legislation to create a permit  
3 requirement for any standup electric scooter company seeking to deploy its product in public  
4 rights of way; and

5           WHEREAS, In spite of the introduction of that legislation, standup electric scooter  
6 proprietors nevertheless launched their product in San Francisco the following week; and

7           WHEREAS, While San Francisco policymakers pursue common sense regulation of  
8 standup electronic scooters to enhance the public benefit of this new shared mobility  
9 technology and to reduce potential harm to the public, state legislators seek to eliminate  
10 elements of the Vehicle Code that exist to protect the health and safety of members of the  
11 public including users of standup electric scooters; and

12           WHEREAS, Private shared mobility services may certainly provide a benefit to the  
13 public to the extent they fill gaps in our public transportation network and provide incentive for  
14 users to minimize or discontinue automobile usage, thereby reducing greenhouse gas  
15 emissions; now, therefore be it

16           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
17 finds that AB-2989 directly contradicts San Francisco's current efforts to responsibly regulate  
18 standup electric scooters in order to enhance public benefit while mitigating risk of harm to the  
19 public realm; and, be it

20           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
21 Francisco opposes AB-2989 for the reasons stated herein; and, be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
23 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the State  
24 Legislature and the City Lobbyist upon passage.  
25



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 180392

Date Passed: April 24, 2018

Resolution opposing California State Assembly Bill 2989, authored by Assembly Member Heath Flora, which would increase the speed limit, triple the wattage, repeal the helmet requirement, and permit use of standup electric scooters on sidewalks.

April 24, 2018 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Stefani, Tang and Yee

File No. 180392

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/24/2018 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Unsigned**  
Mark E. Farrell  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
**5/4/18**  
Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

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**5/4/18**  
Date