

1 [Urging Congress to Pass the Restaurants Act]

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3 **Resolution urging the United States Congress to pass the Real Economic Support that**
4 **Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or Restaurants**
5 **Act, establishing the \$120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund to support the**
6 **struggling restaurant industry.**

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8 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco, State of California, and United
9 States of America have declared local, state, and national emergencies in response to the
10 COVID-19 pandemic; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Health Officer of San Francisco issued an order
12 directing residents to stay home, except to provide or receive essential services; and

13 WHEREAS, Public health precautions required to slow the spread of the COVID-19
14 pandemic and minimize loss of life are resulting in severe economic impacts for our City,
15 State, and Country, with the restaurant industry being one of the hardest hit sectors; and

16 WHEREAS, Across the country, independent restaurants directly employ 11 million
17 workers and indirectly employ 5 million more up and down the food and hospitality supply
18 chain and in San Francisco, restaurants employ 60,000 workers; and

19 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, thousands of restaurants have been forced to close or
20 operate in a limited capacity due to the inability to seat patrons inside their restaurant, while
21 normal expenses like rent, vendor payments, etc. continue to be due; and

22 WHEREAS, The City's reopening timeline initially targeted indoor dining to reopen on
23 July 13, but has subsequently placed indoor dining on hold indefinitely due to the rising
24 number of COVID-19 cases in San Francisco; and

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1 WHEREAS, Without Federal relief, 50-60% of San Francisco restaurants may not be
2 able to survive financially beyond November according to the Golden Gate Restaurant
3 Association; and

4 WHEREAS, The Real Economic Support that Acknowledges Unique Restaurant
5 Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or Restaurants Act, would establish a \$120B Independent
6 Restaurant Revitalization Fund which would be only for non-publicly traded Independent
7 Restaurants with 20 or less units, would be a grant (not a loan) based on the amount of
8 revenue losses from same period last year, less any Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
9 funds received, would apply to operating expenses not covered by the PPP forgiveness, and
10 would first be eligible for minority and women owned businesses; and

11 WHEREAS, The Restaurants Act has been introduced in both the House of
12 Representatives and the Senate with bipartisan support and its passage is urgently needed so
13 that restaurants can access funding to give them a fighting chance to withstand the economic
14 impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and reduce the rate of restaurant closures; and

15 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has previously passed
16 Resolutions in support of Federal relief efforts for businesses impacted by the COVID-19
17 pandemic including the CARES Act and HEROES Act; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
19 urges the United States Congress to expeditiously pass the Real Economic Support that
20 Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act (Restaurants Act) to
21 establish the \$120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund to support our struggling
22 restaurant industry; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
24 to transmit copies of this Resolution to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Jackie Speier,
25 Senator Kamala Harris and Senator Diane Feinstein.