

1 [Urging City Departments to Prioritize Providing Aid to Independent Venues]

2

3 **Resolution urging the Controller, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and**
4 **Office of Small Business to work together and prioritize providing aid to independent**
5 **venues in San Francisco to help them survive their forced temporary-closure due to the**
6 **COVID-19 pandemic, and to help prevent them from closing permanently.**

7

8 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting public health orders have
9 forced most businesses to severely limit their operations or close completely leading to an
10 economic crisis; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Economic Recovery Task Force recommended that the
12 City explore policies and investments that encourage economic development and activity in
13 San Francisco, such as funding public infrastructure projects, streamlining permitting
14 processes, advocacy for state and federal resources in order to counteract the effects of the
15 pandemic; and

16 WHEREAS, While some businesses have been granted some reprieve, were able to
17 re-open, or were allowed to function with certain restrictions in place such as limited capacity
18 during the course of the pandemic, nightlife venues in particular were among the first
19 businesses to close and have not been allowed to resume normal or even limited operation
20 since the beginning of the shelter in place orders; and

21 WHEREAS, The permanent loss of independent venues and theaters will have
22 tremendous economic impacts on the city of San Francisco including not only the direct
23 impact on venue owners and staff, but also the artists who perform at these venues, the
24 companies and individuals that provide rentals and other services to these venues, the
25 hospitality and tourism industry which relies on these venues for entertainment for their

1 guests, the restaurants and bars that cater to those visiting these venues, taxi and ride-share
2 companies and drivers, parking lots and parking attendants, and more; and

3 WHEREAS, According to a 2018 update of the City Controller’s Economic Impact
4 Study, over 3,850 nightlife establishments in San Francisco employed over 63,000 workers,
5 and generated an estimated \$7.2 billion for the city; and

6 WHEREAS, According to a May 2020 Entertainment Commission Industry Survey,
7 nearly half of entertainment and nightlife businesses including many bars, live music venues,
8 and nightclubs were highly concerned that their businesses would need to close permanently
9 and that more than half of survey respondents reported having lost between 75-100% of their
10 expected business income and between 75-100% of their expected individual income in 2020;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Bay Area cultural institutions such as the Stud Bar, Starline Social Club,
13 the Stork Club, and the Uptown Nightclub have already closed and many more venues are on
14 the brink of closure; and

15 WHEREAS, Our independent music venues and nightlife businesses are an integral
16 part of San Francisco’s unique history, culture, and economy and contribute significantly to
17 the vibrancy of the City; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors strongly advocates for federal relief
19 specifically for entertainment and nightlife businesses in the form of grants, forgivable
20 Paycheck Protection Program loans, and Economic Injury Disaster Loans; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all city departments all
22 act with urgency and work together to develop a recovery and relief plan specifically for
23 entertainment and nightlife businesses; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, Urging that the moratorium on Commercial Evictions should
2 be extended through the end of calendar year 2021 to support vulnerable entertainment and
3 nightlife businesses; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, Urging that entertainment and nightlife business permitting
5 should be streamlined to support expedient business activation; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
7 to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Mayor's Office, the Controller's Office, the Office of
8 Economic and Workforce Development, the Office of Small Business, and the Entertainment
9 Commission.

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25