

1 [Urging the California State Legislature to Oppose AB 815.]

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3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to oppose AB 815, which proposes**
4 **to take crucial animal control and welfare issues out of the jurisdiction of**
5 **municipalities.**

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7 WHEREAS, Existing law authorizes local jurisdictions to implement ordinances and
8 regulations that limit or restrict hunting, trapping and fishing; and,

9 WHEREAS, Hunting, trapping, and fishing can negatively impact community residents, pets,
10 and the local environment, and may conflict with other types of recreational demands for open space
11 and water; and,

12 WHEREAS, local jurisdictions are vested with the responsibility to legislate when activities
13 negatively impact a community or the environment, and to balance demands for recreational use of
14 open space and water; and,

15 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 815 would prohibit a local jurisdiction from restricting hunting or
16 fishing for any reason other than the protection of human safety under a narrow definition; and,

17 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 815 would repeal existing local ordinances limiting hunting,
18 trapping or fishing if the primary objective is not the protection of human safety as narrowly defined;
19 and,

20 WHEREAS, A California Supreme Court ruling of 1927 is cited as the basis for this
21 legislation; and,

22 WHEREAS, An eighty year old ruling should not remove the authority of local jurisdictions to
23 carry out their vested responsibility to serve their communities; and,

24 WHEREAS, there is no legitimate reason to repeal the existing law that authorizes local
25 jurisdictions to limit hunting and fishing activities deemed to negatively impact a local

1 community or environment; and,

2 WHEREAS, The California Fish and Game Commission Policy states that their objective
3 is to maximize hunting and fishing opportunities though local jurisdictions may not desire to
4 unequivocally maximize hunting and fishing opportunities; and,

5 WHEREAS, The Fish and Game Commission supported the passage of Assembly Bill
6 396 in 2006, urging and promoting payment to landowners to open up their private land for
7 public hunting; and,

8 WHEREAS, Public hunting on private land may unduly impact the quality of life of local
9 Residents; and,

10 WHEREAS, In such an instance, limiting or restricting hunting may be necessary to
11 protect the quality of life of local residents and prevent degradation of the environment; and,

12 WHEREAS, Trapping can be dangerous and pets have been found dead in lethal traps;
13 and,

14 WHEREAS, Local jurisdictions may desire to protect domestic animals from lethal traps
15 through ordinances; and,

16 WHEREAS, This bill intends to minimize or eliminate legal litigation with the Department
17 of Fish and Game even though no such protection should be afforded to any agency, under
18 the law; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
20 hereby urges the California State Legislature to oppose Assembly Bill 815; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Assembly
22 members Mark Leno, Mimi Walters, Jared Huffman, Fiona Ma, Carol Migden, and Leland
23 Yee.

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