

1 [Urging State Regulatory Action.]

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3 **Resolution endorsing On-Bill Financing as a cost effective means for small business**
4 **owners to finance energy efficiency upgrades, and urging the California Public Utilities**
5 **Commission to take appropriate action to facilitate creation of an On-Bill Financing**
6 **program in California.**

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8 WHEREAS, Small business is defined as any enterprise bringing in \$10 million or less
9 a year in gross receipts or with 100 or fewer employees, according to a report commissioned
10 by Cal Insurance on the effects of small business in San Francisco; and

11 WHEREAS, According to the same report, San Francisco has 108,373 small
12 businesses comprising 52% of all private sector employment and generating \$15.8 billion in
13 annual payroll in the year 2000; and,

14 WHEREAS, Many small businesses could save substantial amounts of money on
15 energy bills while conserving energy by investing in energy efficient technologies, if they could
16 afford the up-front capital costs associated with these improvements; and,

17 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Guardian recently reported on a proposal
18 currently being studied by the California Public Utilities Commission called On-Bill Financing,
19 noting, "Many small businesses may never realize the potential savings from energy
20 efficiency because of the high initial cost. But as local businesses continue to devour
21 expensive energy, they're stuck perpetuating .. air pollution .. Clearly, there must be a better
22 way."; and,

23 WHEREAS, On Bill Financing is a utility-based method of providing 0% financing for
24 small business energy efficiency improvements on the monthly power bill, thus providing
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1 more small businesses with the opportunity to address energy costs in an affordable and
2 achievable manner; and,

3 WHEREAS, According to the Center for Small Business and the Environment, several
4 successful On Bill Financing programs exist in New England, the best of which allows for
5 lower incentives to leverage more energy efficiency; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
7 supports On-Bill Financing as a cost-effective method to assist California small businesses
8 with purchasing energy efficient technologies; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board hereby urges the California Public Utilities
10 Commission to take the appropriate action necessary to facilitate the creation of an On-Bill
11 Financing program in California; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon enactment of this resolution, the Clerk of the Board
13 will forward copies to the Executive Director and members of the California Public Utilities
14 Commission and the General Manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

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