

1 [Urging to Delay Implementation of the Responsible Beverage Service Training Program]

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3 **Resolution urging Governor Gavin Newsom and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage**
4 **Control to delay implementation of the Responsible Beverage Service Training**
5 **Program.**
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7 WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 1221 (AB 1221) established the
8 Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) Training Program Act of 2017, and required the
9 Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to develop, implement, and administer a
10 curriculum for an RBS training program; and

11 WHEREAS, The RBS requires alcohol servers to complete a training course offered or
12 authorized by ABC focused on laws governing alcoholic beverages and the impact of alcohol
13 on the body in order to promote safer consumption of alcoholic drinks; and

14 WHEREAS, Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the RBS training requirement was
15 delayed for a year to July 1, 2022, with mandatory training to be completed by August 31,
16 2022; and

17 WHEREAS, San Francisco businesses were provided this information in May 2022,
18 with information only available in English and Spanish; and

19 WHEREAS, While other languages including Chinese, Filipino, and Vietnamese will be
20 available for businesses by July 1, 2022, the delay to offer additional languages shortens the
21 window in which small, immigrant-owned businesses can come into compliance; and

22 WHEREAS, As of May 9, 2022, approximately 22,000 alcohol servers have been
23 successfully certified out of an estimated one million servers in California; and
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1 WHEREAS, ABC has approved only 35 trainers to educate the remaining hundreds of
2 thousands of servers, with an overwhelming majority in English and only a few in Spanish;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Requiring businesses to be in compliance with this new program by
5 August 31, 2022 is not nearly enough time to conduct outreach and education to non-native
6 and limited English proficient speakers; and

7 WHEREAS, Servers who are not in compliance with the training requirements could
8 subject businesses to disciplinary action, including revocation of their liquor license; and

9 WHEREAS, While ABC has stated that the department will take an education-first
10 approach to enforcement, they have not provided a timeline for when enforcement measures
11 will be enacted, disproportionately impacting non-native and limited English-speaking servers
12 and immigrant-owned small businesses; and

13 WHEREAS, Immigrant-owned small businesses that disproportionately struggled
14 through the pandemic, facing racism and prejudice, are now being faced with a tight timeline
15 to come into compliance with the RBS, which represents an additional barrier to recovery;
16 now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
18 urges Governor Gavin Newsom and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to delay
19 implementation of the Responsible Beverage Service Training Program; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
21 Francisco urges Governor Newsom and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to
22 create a robust outreach plan to non-native and limited English proficient servers and
23 businesses, and expedite hiring of non-English speaking trainers; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
2 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit this resolution to Governor Newsom and
3 the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.