

1 [Resolution Requesting Police Department to End Vehicle Impounding]

2  
3 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Police Department to temporarily cease the**  
4 **impoundment of vehicles for lack of a California Driver’s License, pending City**  
5 **Attorney review of current law.**  
6

7 WHEREAS, In Miranda v. City of Cornelius and People v. Williams, the courts have  
8 ruled as unconstitutional the impoundment of vehicles on the sole charge of driving without a  
9 license, citing a violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments;

10 WHEREAS, Such jurisdictions as Sonoma County and The City of Los Angeles have  
11 imposed moratoriums on impounding the vehicles of unlicensed drivers; and,

12 WHEREAS, The impoundment of vehicles creates a disproportionate impact on the  
13 poor, on racial and ethnic minorities, and on undocumented residents; and,

14 WHEREAS, Cars are vital for family transportation, without which those individuals  
15 cannot get to work, school, church or for shopping; and,

16 WHEREAS, Vehicles are impounded regardless of whether public safety is at risk; and

17 WHEREAS, An impounded vehicle is often community property and it is unfair to the  
18 non-driving spouse to deprive them of his or her property; and

19 WHEREAS, Vehicle impound fees impose an immense financial burden upon those  
20 people that are least able to afford it; and,

21 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
22 hereby requests that San Francisco Police Department temporarily suspend vehicle  
23 impoundment for lack of a California driver’s license pending City Attorney review; and  
24  
25

1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
2 Francisco requests that the City Attorney review all applicable laws and counsel the Board as  
3 to whether vehicle impound is required where the sole issue is lack of a valid driver's license  
4 and where there is no risk to public safety.

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25