

1 [Recognizing November as National Native American Heritage Month]

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3 **Resolution recognizing November 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021, as National**
4 **Native American Heritage Month for their contributions to our nation and as first**
5 **peoples of San Francisco, celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans**
6 **and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and encouraging all**
7 **people to participate in activities and events to learn about and understand the**
8 **contribution of native peoples to this land.**

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10 WHEREAS, From November 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021, San Francisco and
11 the United States celebrate National Native American Heritage Month; and

12 WHEREAS, National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider
13 and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to their longstanding history in San
14 Francisco the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, Native Americans are the original indigenous inhabitants of what is now
16 the United States with over 500 Nations across the United States and over 150 federally and
17 non-federally recognized tribes throughout California; and

18 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco was originally inhabited by the
19 Yelamu, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, where an estimated 1500
20 inhabitants lived when the Spanish arrived in the 16th Century; and

21 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco established the American Indian
22 Cultural District in March of 2020 to honor, recognize, and celebrate the American Indian
23 legacy, culture, people, and contributions and maintain American Indian sacred spaces and
24 traditions to elevate a deep-rooted sense of community; and

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1 WHEREAS, The Indian Relocation Act of 1956 which moved as many as 750,000
2 American Indians off their reservation lands into cities identified San Francisco as one of the
3 top four urban job centers which resulted in San Francisco Bay Area having one of the highest
4 populations of relocated inter-tribal American Indian nations in California; and

5 WHEREAS, San Francisco serves as a catalyst city to many American Indian
6 movements across the nation including the historic occupation of Alcatraz which began
7 November 20, 1969, and was one of the longest protests in history lasting 19 months and
8 served as an international platform for bringing visibility to Indian termination policies, broken
9 treaties, and was the catalyst for President Nixon’s return of the sacred Blue Lake, 48,000
10 acres back to the Taos Pueblo Tribe of New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (SFHRC) published a
12 comprehensive report in 2007 called *Discrimination by Omission: Issues of Concerns for*
13 *Native Americans in San Francisco*, which served as the basis for the newly funded American
14 Indian Truth & Healing Reparations Advisory Committee under SFHRC to address American
15 Indian concerns to advise the City and the public regarding reparations for past and present
16 institutional racism on unceded stolen lands, examine strategies to heal Native invisibility,
17 create a collective voice to remedy the absence of political representation, generate equitable
18 resource distribution; and

19 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco acknowledges that San Francisco
20 ranks tenth among cities with the highest number of murdered or missing indigenous women
21 cases and passed, a Resolution in May of 2019 recognizing May 5th as the National Day of
22 Honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women; and

23 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisor also urges Congress and local governments to
24 support education, tribal self-governance and self-determination for Native peoples; and

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1 WHEREAS, With the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009
2 Congress reaffirmed and recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the
3 culture of the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, The people of the United States have reason to honor the great
5 achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, elected by the people
7 recognize the month of November 2021 as “National Native American Heritage Month” and
8 urges the people of San Francisco to observe this month with curiosity, appreciation and
9 participation with people and activities of the Native American tradition.

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