

1 **[Support – Marine Life Protection Act]**

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3 **Resolution Supporting Implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act.**

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5 WHEREAS, The people of San Francisco have a long history of leadership in
6 protecting the oceans through actions such as monitoring the water quality at all beaches,
7 supporting protection of Chilean Sea Bass, supporting the California Ocean Protection Act,
8 and supporting the Gulf of the Farallones, Cordell Bank and Monterey Bay National Marine
9 Sanctuaries; and

10 WHEREAS, The health of the Pacific Ocean is directly tied to San Francisco's
11 economy, public health, and environment; and

12 WHEREAS, there is increasing scientific evidence that human activities are irreparably
13 harming our marine ecosystems and ocean life; and

14 WHEREAS, There is strong scientific evidence that marine protected areas, including
15 marine reserves and water quality protection areas, restore and protect the natural diversity
16 and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function and integrity of marine ecosystems;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, In 1999, California adopted the Marine Life Protection Act to provide
19 improved protection for the diversity and abundance of California's ocean habitats through a
20 network of marine protected areas with six goals:

- 21 1. To protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure,
22 function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.
- 23 2. To help sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations, including those of
24 economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.

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- 1 3. To improve recreational, educational, and study opportunities provided by marine
2 ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and to manage these
3 uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
- 4 4. To protect marine natural heritage, including protection of representative and
5 unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic value.
- 6 5. To ensure that California’s Marine Protected Areas have clearly defined objectives,
7 effective management measures, and adequate enforcement, and are based on
8 sound scientific guidelines.
- 9 6. To ensure that the state’s Marine Protected Areas are designed and managed, to
10 the extent possible, as a network; and

11 WHEREAS, The State’s recently released ocean action plan, “Protecting Our Ocean:
12 California’s Action Strategy,” identifies implementing the Marine Life Protection Act as a key
13 action California should take to maintain its nationally recognized leadership role in managing
14 and protecting ocean and coastal resources; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 hereby supports the goals and implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act to establish a
17 network of marine protected areas in California waters to protect the State’s marine life,
18 habitat and ocean ecosystems.

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