

1 [Supporting the Golden State Valkyries in Equal Pay Compensation]

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3 **Resolution supporting the Golden State Valkyries Women's Basketball Team and their**
4 **fight for a fair collective bargaining agreement and equal compensation in the**
5 **Women's National Basketball Association.**
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7 WHEREAS, The Golden State Valkyries were announced as the Women's National
8 Basketball Association's (WNBA) 13th franchise in October 2023, bringing professional
9 women's basketball back to the Bay Area for the first time in over two decades; and

10 WHEREAS, The Valkyries' debut season has garnered national media attention, sold-
11 out games, and record-breaking merchandise sales, proving the viability and commercial
12 strength of women's professional sports; and

13 WHEREAS, The Valkyries' branding, including the team's name, logo, and colors,
14 intentionally reflects strength, empowerment, and a deep connection to Bay Area identity; and

15 WHEREAS, The Valkyries have quickly established themselves in the WNBA, setting a
16 league record with ten consecutive sellouts at Chase Center; and

17 WHEREAS, The Valkyries are currently valued at \$500,000,000 the highest valuation
18 in women's sports history and nearly double the WNBA's average team valuation of
19 \$269,000,000 underscoring the players' immense business and cultural impact; and

20 WHEREAS, WNBA players currently earn a fraction of their NBA counterparts despite
21 driving historic growth in media rights, sponsorships, and fan engagement for the league; and

22 WHEREAS, Many WNBA players are forced to play overseas in the offseason to
23 supplement their incomes, often facing grueling travel schedules, increased injury risk, and
24 even geopolitical danger; and
25

1 WHEREAS, WNBA players have consistently led the fight for equity in professional
2 sports, pushing for higher pay, better travel accommodations, maternity protections, and
3 investment in player health and safety; and

4 WHEREAS, The WNBA overall has experienced significant growth in attendance,
5 viewership, sponsorship, and social media reach, trends driven by the extraordinary skill,
6 dedication, and popularity of its players; and

7 WHEREAS, In October 2024, the Women's National Basketball Players Association
8 (WNBPA) exercised its right to opt out of the current collective bargaining agreement and has
9 initiated efforts to negotiate a new agreement that reflects the players' contributions to the
10 growing success of the league; and

11 WHEREAS, Valkyries players joined their peers across the league in calling for a new
12 agreement that enshrines principles of equity, fairness, and equal compensation, recognizing
13 their indispensable role in the growth and future of the WNBA; and

14 WHEREAS, During the 2025 WNBA All-Star Game, players from across the league,
15 including members of the Golden State Valkyries, wore T-shirts reading "Pay Us What You
16 Owe Us," a powerful and public demand for economic justice and fair compensation; and

17 WHEREAS, This statement echoed years of advocacy by the WNBPA and resonated
18 across the sports world, drawing support from fellow athletes, labor leaders, and fans
19 demanding parity for women athletes; and

20 WHEREAS, The call for equal pay in women's basketball reflects broader movements
21 across women's sports, from soccer to hockey to tennis, where athletes are organizing for
22 contracts that reflect their value, labor, and success; and

23 WHEREAS, The WNBA has an exact salary cap that is set by the Collective Bargaining
24 Agreement Negotiation and determined based on projected income; and

1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area has long been a leader in advancing gender
2 equity and workers' rights and looks to continue our commitment to supporting fair treatment
3 and equitable compensation; and

4 WHEREAS, The Valkyries' success not only enriches the cultural fabric of San
5 Francisco, but also serves as a source of inspiration for countless young people, especially
6 girls and young women who see new possibilities for their own futures in sports and beyond;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
9 expresses its full support for the Golden State Valkyries and their efforts to secure a fair
10 collective bargaining agreement through the WNBPA; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board commends the Valkyries for their exceptional
12 contributions to professional sports, to advancing gender equity, and to the cultural Vibrancy
13 of San Francisco; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors joins calls for the Women's
15 National Basketball Association to ensure that the next collective bargaining agreement
16 reflects the full economic and cultural value WNBA players bring to the league and its future;
17 and to secure the resources, protections, and compensations that honor their essential role in
18 shaping the future of professional basketball.