

1 [Usage of Ultra-Processed Foods in City Departments]

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3 **Resolution urging the Sheriff's Office, the Department of Public Health, the Department**
4 **of Children, Youth and Their Families, and the Department of Homelessness and**
5 **Supportive Housing to review their distribution of ultra-processed foods directly and**
6 **through contractors and to align with the goals of California's Real Food, Healthy Kids**
7 **Act; and urging the Department of Public Health to develop a framework for identifying**
8 **and evaluating ultra-processed foods for the City to use in decisions concerning food**
9 **distribution and procurement and for reporting purposes.**

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11 WHEREAS, Extensive public health research has shown that ultra-processed foods
12 present significant health risks, including but not limited to increased rates of Type 2 diabetes,
13 fatty liver disease, cardiovascular disease, obesity, and other diet-related chronic conditions;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Ultra-processed foods are typically characterized by industrial formulations
16 containing additives for flavor, color, emulsification, and preservation, and are classified using
17 the internationally recognized NOVA system, which identifies ultra-processed foods as "Group
18 4" foods; and

19 WHEREAS, On October 8, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill No.
20 1264 (AB 1264), Real Food, Healthy Kids Act into law, making California the first state in the
21 country to take statewide legislative action aimed at phasing out the provision and sale of
22 ultra-processed foods in schools and requiring schools to transition toward healthier,
23 minimally processed meals for students; and

24 WHEREAS, AB 1264 was enacted in response to growing evidence of the potential
25 harm of ultra-processed foods and reflects a broader public health priority to reduce the

1 consumption of these foods among children and families, particularly in communities
2 disproportionately impacted by chronic disease; and

3 WHEREAS, Although AB 1264 applies only to public schools, many San Francisco City
4 departments distribute or serve food directly or through contractors and grantees to youth,
5 families, adults, seniors, people experiencing homelessness, and individuals in custody, and
6 therefore play an important role in shaping the nutritional environment for thousands of
7 residents each year; and

8 WHEREAS, The Sheriff's Office, Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of
9 Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF), and Department of Homelessness and
10 Supportive Housing (HSH) administer programs in which food is purchased, distributed,
11 served, or made available, including but not limited to jail food services, long-term care
12 facilities, shelter meals, community-based food programs, youth programming, early
13 education programs, and contracted nonprofit services; and

14 WHEREAS, Understanding the extent to which ultra-processed foods are distributed by
15 these City departments is necessary for evaluating health impacts, procurement practices,
16 and opportunities to improve food quality, nutrition standards, and long-term health outcomes
17 for San Francisco residents; and

18 WHEREAS, The NOVA food classification system, developed by public health
19 researchers and widely used by international health agencies, categorizes foods according to
20 the degree of industrial processing, and identifies "ultra-processed foods" as Group 4 foods
21 that contain additives, flavor enhancers, artificial colors, preservatives, and other industrial
22 ingredients; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Sheriff's Office, DPH, DCYF,
24 and HSH to review and assess the quantity and types of ultra-processed foods they have
25 distributed, served, or made available directly or through contractors and grantees and

1 consider ways to reduce the procurement and future distribution of ultra-processed food; and,
2 be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges DPH to develop a
4 framework for effectively identifying and evaluating ultra-processed foods for the City to use in
5 decisions concerning food distribution and procurement and for purposes of tracking and
6 reporting procurement and distribution of ultra-processed food; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board affirms San Francisco's commitment to
8 advancing health equity by ensuring that the food served or supported by City government
9 promotes the well-being of all residents and aligns with statewide efforts to reduce reliance on
10 ultra-processed foods.