

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

December 3, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of the State of California 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 526-24

Dear Governor Newsom:

On October 22, 2024, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 526-24 (Supporting California State Proposition 6 on November 2024 Ballot), which was enacted on November 1, 2024.

The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to forward the following document to your attention:

One copy of Resolution No. 526-24 (File No. 241026)

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184, or by e-mail: board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

II:jw:ak:ams

c. Members of the Board of Supervisors; Supervisors Dean Preston, Shamann Walton, Hillary Ronen, Connie Chan, Ahsha Safai, Matt Dorsey, Rafael Mandelman Tom Paulino, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors Eileen F. Mariano, Mayor's Manager of State and Federal Legislative Affairs Andres Power, Mayor's Policy Director

Paul Yoder, Karen Lange, Erica Smith, City Lobbyists - Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange

[Supporting California State Proposition 6 on November 2024 Ballot]

Resolution supporting Proposition 6 to amend Article 1, Section 6, of the California Constitution to remove the exception clause permitting involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime, effectively ending all legal vestiges of slavery in the state.

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 6 of the California Constitution currently states that "slavery is prohibited" with the exception that "involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime" may still be practiced; and

WHEREAS, The exception clause permits the continued exploitation of labor from incarcerated individuals, which disproportionately impacts people of color, particularly Black and Indigenous communities, and perpetuates systemic racial inequalities; and

WHEREAS, Forced labor under the guise of punishment for crime is a vestige of slavery, a system that the United States Constitution's 13th Amendment sought to abolish, yet left this harmful exception intact, effectively allowing slavery by another name; and

WHEREAS, California is currently one of only 16 states that still retains this exception in its constitution, perpetuating a practice that should have been eradicated with the abolition of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 6 seeks to amend Article 1, Section 6 of the California

Constitution to remove the exception clause, fully prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude under any circumstances, thereby reaffirming California's commitment to human rights and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Ending this exception would set a national example, showing that California stands firmly against all forms of slavery and upholds the fundamental belief in equality and freedom for all; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 6 will enable incarcerated people to prioritize their rehabilitation so they can work jobs and shifts that enable them to access education, counseling, and other rehabilitative programs, including Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, that facilitate growth and make people less likely to re-offend upon their release; and

WHEREAS, Evidence shows that the more people are rehabilitated, the less likely they are to suffer from homelessness and re-offend, avoiding costs for re-incarceration; these savings can be reallocated to community programs, investments in mental health programs, education, and other public services, improving the well-being of all Californians while saving taxpayers money; and

WHEREAS, A broad coalition of civil rights organizations, faith leaders, labor unions, legal experts, and formerly incarcerated individuals have voiced their strong support for Proposition 6 and the removal of the slavery exception from California's Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of historical accountability and the responsibility to dismantle the legacies of systemic injustice embedded in our state and nation's legal framework; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares its support for Proposition 6, which amends Article 1, Section 6 of the California Constitution to remove the exception clause permitting involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime, effectively ending all legal vestiges of slavery in the state; and, be it



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Resolution

File Number:	241026	Date Passed: October 22, 2024	
remove the exce		e 1, Section 6, of the California Constitution to servitude as punishment for a crime, effectively	
Octobe	r 22, 2024 Board of Supervisors - A	DOPTED	
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton			
File N	o. 241026	I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/22/2024 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.	,
		Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board	
τ	Insigned	11/01/2024	
Lo	ondon N. Breed Mayor	Date Approved	
as set forth in Sec	tion 3.103 of the Charter, or time without her approval in accordance	ng signed by the Mayor within the time limit vaived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, e with the provision of said Section 3.103 of	

Clerk of the Board

11/01/2024



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December 3, 2024

The Honorable Mike McGuire California State Senator Senate President Pro Tempore California State Capitol 1021 O Street, Suite 8518 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 526-24

Dear President Pro Tempore McGuire:

On October 22, 2024, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 526-24 (Supporting California State Proposition 6 on November 2024 Ballot), which was enacted on November 1, 2024.

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WHEREAS, California is currently one of only 16 states that still retains this exception in its constitution, perpetuating a practice that should have been eradicated with the abolition of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 6 seeks to amend Article 1, Section 6 of the California

Constitution to remove the exception clause, fully prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude under any circumstances, thereby reaffirming California's commitment to human rights and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Ending this exception would set a national example, showing that California stands firmly against all forms of slavery and upholds the fundamental belief in equality and freedom for all; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 6 will enable incarcerated people to prioritize their rehabilitation so they can work jobs and shifts that enable them to access education, counseling, and other rehabilitative programs, including Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, that facilitate growth and make people less likely to re-offend upon their release; and

WHEREAS, Evidence shows that the more people are rehabilitated, the less likely they are to suffer from homelessness and re-offend, avoiding costs for re-incarceration; these savings can be reallocated to community programs, investments in mental health programs, education, and other public services, improving the well-being of all Californians while saving taxpayers money; and

WHEREAS, A broad coalition of civil rights organizations, faith leaders, labor unions, legal experts, and formerly incarcerated individuals have voiced their strong support for Proposition 6 and the removal of the slavery exception from California's Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of historical accountability and the responsibility to dismantle the legacies of systemic injustice embedded in our state and nation's legal framework; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares its support for Proposition 6, which amends Article 1, Section 6 of the California Constitution to remove the exception clause permitting involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime, effectively ending all legal vestiges of slavery in the state; and, be it



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December 3, 2024

The Honorable Scott Wiener California State Senator California State Capitol 1021 O Street, Suite 8620 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 526-24

Dear Senator Wiener:

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RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares its support for Proposition 6, which amends Article 1, Section 6 of the California Constitution to remove the exception clause permitting involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime, effectively ending all legal vestiges of slavery in the state; and, be it



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τ	Jnsigned	11/0	01/2024
Lo	ondon N. Breed Mayor	Date	Approved
as set forth in Sec	at the foregoing resolution, not being tion 3.103 of the Charter, or time wo without her approval in accordance and Rule 2.14.2.	waived pursuant to E	Board Rule 2.14.2,

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December 3, 2024

The Honorable Robert Rivas Speaker of the California State Assembly California State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0029

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 526-24

Dear Speaker Rivas:

On October 22, 2024, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 526-24 (Supporting California State Proposition 6 on November 2024 Ballot), which was enacted on November 1, 2024.

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December 3, 2024

The Honorable Phil Ting California State Assembly Member California State Capitol 1021 O Street, Suite 5220 P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0019

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 526-24

Dear Assembly Member Ting:

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