

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 670 (Quirk-Silva) - Allow Local Governments to
2 Count Investments in Preserving Affordable Housing Toward Regional Housing Needs
3 Allocation Goals]

4 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 670, introduced by Assembly**
5 **Member Sharon Quirk-Silva, to allow local governments to count investments in**
6 **preserving affordable housing toward their Regional Housing Needs Allocation goals.**
7

8 WHEREAS, Preservation of existing housing is a critical component of maintaining and
9 expanding the stock of affordable housing in California, and efforts to preserve housing are
10 key to combating displacement and stabilizing communities; and

11 WHEREAS, The current framework for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment
12 (RHNA) does not allow jurisdictions to count the preservation of naturally occurring affordable
13 housing as part of their affordable housing targets, which limits the ability of cities and
14 counties to fully utilize strategies that maintain and protect affordable housing; and

15 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 670 (AB 670) seeks to allow jurisdictions to
16 include the preservation of affordable housing as part of their RHNA targets, enabling cities
17 and counties to incorporate the preservation of existing housing as a legitimate and impactful
18 strategy to meet their housing goals; and

19 WHEREAS, AB 670 provides an opportunity to strengthen housing strategies by giving
20 preservation the same recognition as new construction, ensuring that both avenues for
21 increasing affordable housing are pursued to their fullest extent; and

22 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Housing Element specifically recognizes the value of
23 preservation and has acknowledged that preserving affordable housing is an essential
24 strategy for meeting the City's housing goals, addressing housing shortages, and preventing
25 displacement; and

1 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has established initiatives such as
2 the Small Sites Program, which focuses on acquiring and preserving affordable housing in
3 small, multifamily buildings that might otherwise be vulnerable to market pressures and
4 gentrification.

5 WHEREAS, The Small Sites Program has been an effective tool in stabilizing low-
6 income communities and keeping them affordable for existing residents, and it serves as a
7 model for preservation strategies across the state; and

8 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Small Sites Program has successfully acquired and
9 preserved hundreds of affordable units, creating a path for low-income tenants to stay in their
10 homes while protecting against displacement, underscoring how local efforts, supported by
11 state recognition and incentives, can play a key role in preserving the diversity and vibrancy of
12 our communities; and

13 WHEREAS, San Francisco preservation efforts have helped developed an ecosystem
14 of innovative nonprofits that are recognized leaders in the community ownership movement,
15 including the San Francisco Community Land Trust; and

16 WHEREAS, AB 670 will strengthen preservation efforts by providing the state-level
17 recognition and support necessary for local jurisdictions, like San Francisco, to continue using
18 preservation as a tool for meeting housing needs and advancing affordability; and

19 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco recognizes the importance of
20 advocating for legislative measures that support affordable housing preservation as a key
21 component of the solution to the housing crisis in the Bay Area and throughout the state; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
24 strongly supports Assembly Bill 670 (AB 670) and urges the California Legislature and
25

1 Governor to enact the bill, allowing jurisdictions to count the preservation of affordable
2 housing toward their Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) targets; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the State of California to
4 recognize the importance of preservation in meeting the state's affordable housing needs and
5 supports policies that incentivize and facilitate the preservation of affordable housing; and be
6 it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests the Clerk of
8 the Board to submit a copy of this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, Assembly Member
9 Sharon Quirk-Silva, Senate President Pro Tem Mike McGuire, Assembly Speaker Robert
10 Rivas, and San Francisco's delegation in the State Legislature - Assembly Member Matt
11 Haney, Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, and State Senator Scott Wiener.