

1 [Commending the “Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative” for their efforts.]

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3 **Resolution commending the “Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative” for their**  
4 **efforts to increase the claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal**  
5 **tax credits through free tax preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income**  
6 **families to financial education, asset development and other benefit programs**

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8 WHEREAS, San Francisco residents have begun preparations to file their income tax  
9 returns between January 31 and April 15, 2004; and

10 WHEREAS, income tax preparation is often a complicated process that usually  
11 benefits from expert tax preparation assistance; and

12 WHEREAS, tax preparation assistance can help low-income families take advantage  
13 of federal tax benefits such as the **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit**  
14 **(CTC)**, and receive up to \$4,200 in tax refunds — a significant amount for families struggling  
15 to make ends meet; and

16 WHEREAS, tax preparation assistance can cost as much as \$300, a fee that is out of  
17 reach for most low-income families; and

18 WHEREAS, because many low-income San Francisco families lack access to tax  
19 preparation assistance, there are more than 10,000 taxpayers in the county who don’t claim  
20 the EITC benefits they are eligible for, thus missing out on approximately \$5.8 million in EITC  
21 funds annually; and

22 WHEREAS, recognizing that the significant loss of millions of dollars of tax benefits to  
23 the county’s low-income families can affect their economic security, United Way of the Bay  
24 Area, Tax-Aid, EARN, Internal Revenue Service, San Francisco Department of Human  
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1 Services, Federal Reserve Bank and SF Works have come together to convene **Earn It!**  
2 **Keep It! Save It! San Francisco**, a multi-sectoral collaboration that seeks to build the assets  
3 of low-income families in the county; and

4 WHEREAS, **Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco** is an effort to increase the  
5 claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax  
6 preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset  
7 development and other benefit programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco relies on volunteers to help low-  
9 income taxpayers fill out federal and state income tax returns and file for EITC and CTC tax  
10 benefits. The volunteers are trained in partnership with Tax-Aid and IRS in income tax  
11 preparation and will provide free tax preparation assistance 23 sites throughout the city, and  
12 now therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco City and County Board of Supervisors commends  
14 the “Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative” for their efforts to increase the claiming  
15 of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax preparation  
16 assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset development  
17 and other benefit programs. The Board of Supervisors encourages eligible residents to visit a  
18 VITA site and get free tax preparation assistance.

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