

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 993 (Skinner) - Expanding Access to Support and
2 Services for Victims of Crime]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 993, authored by Senator Nancy**
4 **Skinner, Expanding Crime Victim Support and Services, which improves access to**
5 **support and services for survivors of crime by removing barriers that contribute to**
6 **denial, improving support for exonerees, and increasing funding for compensation of**
7 **victims.**

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9 WHEREAS, The California Victim Compensation Board provides financial support and
10 services to crime victims and exonerees; and

11 WHEREAS, Providing this support increases community safety, improves trust
12 between law enforcement and victims and also reduces a victim’s urge to retaliate; and

13 WHEREAS, If you are a crime survivor, California law provides you the ability to seek
14 financial compensation and services through the Victim Compensation Board; and

15 WHEREAS, The Victim Compensation Board also funds trauma counseling, funeral
16 expenses, and medical expenses; and

17 WHEREAS, This important service is underfunded and governed by language that has
18 prevented many crime survivors from being able to access funds or receive the help needed
19 to recover; and

20 WHEREAS, The application process for accessing these services can be lengthy and
21 burdensome; and

22 WHEREAS, California State Senate Bill No. (SB) 993 improves access to support and
23 services for survivors and exonerees and increases the financial support a crime survivor can
24 receive; and

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1 WHEREAS, SB 993 would increase the compensation cap, improve access to financial
2 assistance for mental health services and expand access to lost income or support services

3 WHEREAS, SB 993 would allow community organizations to provide direct cash
4 assistance to violent crime survivors with minimal administrative burden; and

5 WHEREAS, The bill would streamline the claims process for Victim Compensation
6 Board benefits; and

7 WHEREAS, SB 993 would remove barriers that contribute to denials and racial
8 disparities in Victim Compensation Board claim awards, including correctional supervision
9 disqualification, denials related to law enforcement cooperation, discretionary denials that
10 blame the victim for their own victimization; and

11 WHEREAS, Improve support for exonerees, including compensation for time spent on
12 parole or probation and for attorney’s fees associated with overturning a conviction or
13 securing a pardon; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors shall support California State Senate Bill
15 No. 993 and join Senator Nancy Skinner, Californians for Safety and Justice, Crime Survivors
16 for Safety and Justice, After Innocence and others to support the passage of this bill; and, be
17 it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and
19 County of San Francisco distribute this Resolution to San Francisco’s State Legislative
20 Delegation, State Senate, and to the California Governor Gavin Newsom.

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