

1 [Support of the Internet Archive]

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3 **Resolution recognizing the irreplaceable public value of libraries, including online**  
4 **libraries like the Internet Archive, and the essential rights of all libraries to own,**  
5 **preserve, and lend both digital and print books to the residents of San Francisco and**  
6 **the wider public; supporting the Internet Archive and its public service mission; and**  
7 **urging the California State Legislature and the United States Congress to support**  
8 **digital rights for libraries, including controlled digital lending and the option for**  
9 **libraries to own their digital collections.**

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11 WHEREAS, The Internet Archive is a non-profit research library that preserves Internet sites  
12 and other cultural artifacts, providing free access to researchers, historians, scholars, people  
13 with print disabilities, and the general public; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, the Internet Archive has more than 26 years of archived web  
15 history, 735 billion web pages, 41 million books and texts, and 14.7 million audio recordings,  
16 all available to the public with a free library account; and

17 WHEREAS, The Internet Archive provides digital books through its controlled digital  
18 lending program where a library owns a book, scans it digitally, and loans the digital copy one  
19 user at a time; and

20 WHEREAS, Authors, researchers, journalists, and other creators benefit from digital  
21 access to library collections, including the Internet Archive's books, because libraries keep  
22 books available beyond their commercial life and provide access to older, difficult to find  
23 materials that provide the building blocks for new creative works; and

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1           WHEREAS, The Internet Archive provides access to and preserves books that the  
2 public might not otherwise be able to access, either due to book bans, physical obstacles, or  
3 geographic or licensing unavailability; and

4           WHEREAS, The Internet Archive contains many books that have been banned from  
5 libraries across the country, and attempts to ban books has nearly doubled across the nation,  
6 reaching the highest point ever recorded in 2022; and

7           WHEREAS, Digital libraries are necessary to protect democratized access to  
8 information, knowledge, and truth; and

9           WHEREAS, The Internet Archive has a critical role in providing open, non-  
10 discriminatory access to books, music, videos, and the history of the web; now, therefore, be it

11           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
12 recognizes the irreplaceable public value of libraries, including online libraries like the Internet  
13 Archive, and the essential rights of all libraries to own, preserve, and lend both digital and  
14 print books to the residents of San Francisco and the wider public; and, be it

15           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors commits to supporting the  
16 Internet Archive and its public service mission; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors calls on the Legislature of the  
18 State of California and the United States Congress to support digital rights for libraries,  
19 including controlled digital lending and the option for libraries to own their digital collections;  
20 and, be it

21           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board send a copy of this Resolution to  
22 Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member Matt Haney, Assembly Member Phil Ting, Senator  
23 Alex Padilla, Senator Diane Feinstein and Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi.

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