

1 [National Week of Remembrance for Those We've Lost to COVID-19 - October 4 through
2 October 11, 2020]

3 **Resolution recognizing October 4, 2020, through October 11, 2020, in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco, as a week dedicated to remembering and honoring the lives**
5 **of the thousands of Americans lost to COVID-19; and committing to take action to**
6 **combat this ongoing health crisis.**

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8 WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel virus that has rapidly
9 spread worldwide; and

10 WHEREAS, The virus, which was originally detected in December 2019, has reached
11 pandemic proportions, with more than 29,155,581 confirmed cases that have resulted in over
12 926,544 deaths around the world as of September 15, 2020; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States has the highest number of COVID-19 cases and deaths
14 in the world - reporting 6,537,627 confirmed COVID cases with 194,092 total deaths; and

15 WHEREAS, As of Tuesday September 15, 2020, the San Francisco Department of
16 Public Health has reported at least 10,430 confirmed cases in San Francisco that have
17 resulted in 91 deaths; and

18 WHEREAS, Public health officials have identified older adults and people with chronic
19 health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and
20 weakened immune systems as vulnerable populations that are at greater risk of serious
21 complications or death when exposed to the virus; and

22 WHEREAS, Locally and nationally, while younger adults comprise the majority of
23 confirmed COVID cases, senior citizens over the age of 60 continue to make up the vast
24 majority of those who perish from COVID related health complications; and

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1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco’s Department of Public Health COVID-19 demographic
2 data shows that immigrant, Latino, Asian, and African American populations are
3 disproportionately represented among confirmed COVID cases and deaths, a trend consistent
4 with national data; and

5 WHEREAS, Among those who have died from COVID are large numbers of health
6 care professionals who put their own lives at risk in an unprecedented battle that continues to
7 be fought daily; and

8 WHEREAS, The death of a loved one is an extremely difficult, emotionally stressful
9 event in normal times, and the COVID-19 shelter-in-place mandate has placed even greater
10 emotional and financial burdens on the families of the deceased; and

11 WHEREAS, Due to strict public health orders, many patients dying in hospitals during
12 this global health emergency are being forced to die alone because family members are
13 prohibited from visiting general acute hospitals; and

14 WHEREAS, As a society, people have always found solace in the ritual of mourning
15 and remembrance; and

16 WHEREAS, Taking time to mourn, and acknowledging those lives lost to COVID-19 is
17 essential to the individual and collective ability to truly heal from these losses; now, therefore,
18 be it

19 RESOVLED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes October 4
20 through October 11, 2020, as a National Week of Remembrance for Those We’ve Lost to
21 COVID-19 – a time to acknowledge and pay tribute to the people who have been lost to us
22 forever, and to honor those whose commitment and sense of duty under trying circumstances
23 have kept alive so many more; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOVLED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports this
25 week of remembrance as an opportunity not only to recognize each human life and story

1 behind the total number of COVID-19 casualties, but also to encourage all San Franciscans to
2 organize, volunteer, and take part in concrete actions that will help save the lives and ease
3 the suffering of countless others.

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