

1 [Board Policy Prioritizing Municipal Affairs]

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3 **Resolution setting forth an official Board of Supervisors policy to prioritize municipal**
4 **affairs and issues that most directly impact and affect the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco in the conduct of Board business.**

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7 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors (“Board”) is the governmental
8 body of the City and County of San Francisco with the power to enact laws and policies,
9 consistent with state law, regulating local and municipal affairs; and

10 WHEREAS, The Board does not have jurisdiction over other elected bodies, like the
11 Board of Education, San Francisco Community College District Board of Trustees, and the
12 Bay Area Rapid Transit District Board of Directors; and

13 WHEREAS, When the Board considers non-municipal actions that are contentious, it
14 can be difficult for the Board to reach a simple majority on either side of the non-municipal
15 issue, and this results in the Board spending committee time and resources debating an issue
16 outside its direct control; and

17 WHEREAS, While municipal issues can also be contentious, and be difficult for the
18 Board to reach a majority on either side of the issue, the work to solve municipal problems is
19 necessary to fulfill the core purposes of the Board; and

20 WHEREAS, The Board can support Resolutions on non-municipal and non-contentious
21 matters by adopting without committee reference; and

22 WHEREAS, Every San Francisco resident has the right to speak on any topic during
23 public comment at full Board meetings that has not already been discussed in committee; and

24 WHEREAS, Every member of the Board of Supervisors has the right - either
25 independently or with other members - to take a position on any matter of public interest,

1 whether local or non-local, through issuing statements, publishing op-eds, attending rallies, or
2 otherwise expressing their views outside official committee and full Board meetings; and

3 WHEREAS, San Francisco residents can petition their state and federal
4 representatives on non-municipal issues to enact policies the state and federal
5 representatives have control over; and

6 WHEREAS, The Board should avoid putting on the ballot non-binding measures where
7 other elected bodies have decision-making jurisdiction; and

8 WHEREAS, By prioritizing the study and deliberation of the most pressing municipal
9 issues facing residents, the Board is able to act with greater swiftness, accountability, and
10 sensitivity as it works to address and solve problems within our city; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors declares that it is the official policy of the
12 Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco to prioritize municipal affairs
13 and issues that most directly impact and affect the City and County of San Francisco in the
14 conduct of Board business.

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