

1 [Recognizing the detrimental impact of mobbing on creating a safe and productive workplace
2 for all employees.]

3 **Resolution requesting the Department of Human Resources to recognize the**
4 **detrimental impact of mobbing on creating a safe and productive workplace for all**
5 **employees.**

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7 WHEREAS, Mobbing, a common form of workplace harassment where one group of
8 employees psychologically harasses or bullies another colleague, directly impacts not only
9 the emotional well-being of those targeted, but also the productivity of the entire workforce;
10 and,

11 WHEREAS, Over the past two decades social scientists have documented this
12 workplace phenomenon and its effects on both employees and employers; and,

13 WHEREAS, This psychological harassment can be manifested in the form of verbal
14 comments, constant criticism, isolation and withholding information among many other
15 harassing behaviors; and,

16 WHEREAS, Mobbing often targets employees whose excellent job performance
17 distinguishes them from colleagues; and,

18 WHEREAS, Workplace harassment has a tangible effect on the emotional well-being,
19 job performance and physical health of those targeted; and,

20 WHEREAS, Though every incident of mobbing differs, they often follow a predictable
21 pattern that begins with increased intimidation and isolation and climaxes with a claim by a
22 group of colleagues that the victim has committed an offense that requires immediate
23 adjudication; and,

24 WHEREAS, Regardless of the outcome of any investigation into the alleged offenses,
25 targets of mobbing often voluntarily resign due to an increase in work related anxiety; and,

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1 WHEREAS, An estimated two to five percent of employees will become victims of
2 mobbing at some point during their careers; and,

3 WHEREAS, It has been demonstrated that those people who have been targeted by
4 this form of emotional abuse commit suicide at a higher rate; and,

5 WHEREAS, The increased rates of absenteeism, decreased productivity, along with
6 the added health care and legal costs that result from workplace harassment represent the
7 true cost of these harassing techniques to employers; and,

8 WHEREAS, All forms of workplace harassment are against the employment policies of
9 the City and County of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 condemns this abusive workplace behavior; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County
13 requests the Department of Human Resources to report back to the Board of Supervisors
14 within 60 days how, if at all, it can include mobbing, and all forms of psychological
15 harassment, in their policies covering workforce harassment.

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