

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 3024 (Ward) - The Stop Hate Littering Act]

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3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 3024, introduced by**
4 **Assembly Member Chris Ward, to expand the definition of “intimidation by threat of**
5 **violence” under the Ralph Civil Rights Act of 1976 and address the distribution of**
6 **hateful materials on private property without authorization.**

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8 WHEREAS, Hate littering, including the distribution of flyers, posters, or symbols
9 with hateful messaging targeting protected communities, has become a prevalent tactic
10 used by hate groups to intimidate and terrorize individuals based on their religion, gender,
11 sexual orientation, or other characteristics; and

12 WHEREAS, This form of propaganda has become a preferred tactic for ill-actors
13 because it maximizes personal impact while allowing the perpetrators to remain
14 anonymous, thereby contributing to a climate of fear and division within communities
15 nationwide; and

16 WHEREAS, In recent years, the state of California has witnessed a disturbing rise in
17 such incidents, with the Anti-Defamation League documenting more than 3,600 anti-Semitic
18 acts of assault, vandalism, and harassment in 2023 alone - the highest year on record
19 since tracking began in 1979; and

20 WHEREAS, Hateful crimes continue to rise over recent years, spewing bigotry and
21 racial bias against varied ethnic and religious groups in cities across the state; and

22 WHEREAS, Released by Attorney General Rob Bonta, the annual Hate Crime in
23 California Report for 2022 reported a 20% increase in hate motivated crime events from
24 2021 to 2022, and the tactic of hate littering is directly employed in these instances, proving

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1 extremely hard for law enforcement to prosecute because it currently exists in a legal gray
2 area; and

3 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 3024 (AB 3024) proposes necessary updates to
4 existing laws of the 1976 Ralph Civil Rights Act by expanding the definition of “intimidation
5 by threat of violence” to include the unauthorized distribution of hateful materials on private
6 property, thereby ensuring victims are provided with adequate protections, civil recourse,
7 and new legal tools for law enforcement to hold offenders accountable and deter further
8 hate acts; and

9 WHEREAS, The bill declares the need to take effect immediately as an urgency
10 statute in order to provide prompt protections and justice for those affected by hate littering;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The Stop Hate Littering Act is sponsored by the Anti-Defamation
13 League and supported by civil rights organizations and local elected officials, recognizing
14 the urgency to combat these cowardly acts of hate and division; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 hereby expresses its strong support for Assembly Bill No. 3024 and commends Assembly
17 Member Chris Ward and all supporting parties for their leadership in tackling the spread of
18 hate and division through any medium of distribution; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this
20 Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of
21 the State Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member Matt
22 Haney, Assembly Member Phil Ting, and Assembly Member Christopher Ward to signify
23 the Board’s endorsement and encouragement for the swift passage and implementation of
24 this critical legislation.

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