

1 [Urging Contributions to Ameliorate the Effects of Slavery]

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3 **Resolution urging city contractors that have participated and/or profited from slave**
4 **trades to make voluntary contributions to ameliorate the legacy of slavery.**

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6 WHEREAS, Many San Francisco residents are descendants of people subjected to
7 slavery, and the impacts of slavery in the United States continues to have a harmful impact on
8 the experiences and outcomes of Black and African American people in San Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, People forced into slavery were dehumanized, snatched from their
10 families, and coerced into performing labor without appropriate compensation or benefits, and
11 were defined and insured as private property, and used as collateral for insurance policies,
12 loans and other transactions; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance No. 275-06, Slavery
14 Era Disclosure, requiring city contractors providing insurance and insurance services, financial
15 services, or textiles to the City to disclose any participation in the slave trade; and

16 WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 275-06 also created an account for contractors subject to
17 the Ordinance to make voluntary contributions, and requiring that monies donated to this
18 account be used to fund economic development and educational initiatives designed to
19 ameliorate the effects of slavery upon the residents of San Francisco; and

20 WHEREAS, Insurance policies from the American slavery era documented insurance
21 coverage to slaveholders for damage to or death of people subjected to slavery, and financial
22 services firms bought or sold people subjected to slavery, provided loans to purchase people
23 subjected to slavery, and profited from the trade of people subjected to slavery; and

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1 WHEREAS, In filing an affidavit in compliance with this Ordinance, U.S. Bank has
2 identified relevant records that its predecessor companies participated in and benefited from
3 the slave trade; and

4 WHEREAS, In February of 2015, the Office of the City Administrator sent letters
5 requesting voluntary contributions from all City vendors covered by Ordinance No. 275-06,
6 and no responses were received; and

7 WHEREAS, In August 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed
8 Resolution No. 376-20 supporting a reparations plan that will comprehensively address the
9 inequities that exist in the African American community as a result of slavery’s legacy of
10 systemic oppression and creation of an advisory committee for the African American
11 community; and

12 WHEREAS, In December 2020, Ordinance No. 259-20 officially established the African
13 American Reparations Advisory Committee (AARAC) to advise the Board of Supervisors, the
14 Mayor, the Human Rights Commission, and the public regarding the development, adoption,
15 and implementation of a San Francisco Reparations Plan that determines the scope and
16 eligibility for a citywide reparations program, examines current structural discrimination within
17 San Francisco, and proposes institutional reforms to guard against the need for future
18 redress; and

19 WHEREAS, The AARAC began convening in June 2021, and released the first draft of
20 the San Francisco Reparations Plan in December 2022; this first draft was heard at the
21 Committee of the Whole on March 14, 2023, at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors; and

22 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2023, the AARAC released the final San Francisco
23 Reparations Plan 2023, prepared by the Human Rights Commission and a digital copy was
24 sent to the Board of Supervisors; the Board of Supervisors will hear the final report at the
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1 Committee of the Whole scheduled for the September 19, 2023, Board of Supervisors
2 meeting; and

3 WHEREAS, Requesting voluntary contributions from all City vendors covered by
4 Ordinance No. 275-06, that have or have had their predecessor firms profited or participated
5 in slavery, directly supports San Francisco's reparations efforts on the long historical impacts
6 of slavery; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
8 urges city contractors that have participated and/or profited from slave trades to make
9 voluntary contributions to ameliorate the effects of slavery as part of San Francisco's
10 reparations efforts.

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