

1 [Opposing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposal to Rescind the 2009
2 Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding]

3 **Resolution opposing the United States (U.S) Environmental Protection Agency's
4 proposal to rescind the 2009 Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding; urging the Bay
5 Area Air Quality Management District to adopt a similar position; and reaffirming the
6 City and County of San Francisco's commitment to strong climate action and air
7 quality protections.**

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9 WHEREAS, In 2007, the United States Supreme Court decided Massachusetts v.

10 Environmental Protection Agency, holding that greenhouse gases fall within the Clean Air
11 Act's definition of "air pollutant" and requiring EPA to determine whether such pollutants from
12 motor vehicles endanger public health or welfare; and

13 WHEREAS, In response to that ruling, EPA conducted an extensive scientific review
14 and public process, receiving and considering more than 380,000 public comments and
15 relying on the conclusions of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, the
16 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and the National Research Council; and

17 WHEREAS, On December 15, 2009, EPA issued the Greenhouse Gas Endangerment
18 Finding, concluding that six greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous
19 oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride, which collectively
20 endanger both the public health and public welfare of current and future generations, thereby
21 triggering EPA's obligation under Section 202 of the Clean Air Act to regulate emissions from
22 new motor vehicles; and

23 WHEREAS, The Endangerment Finding has since served as the scientific and legal
24 foundation for national greenhouse gas regulations across multiple sectors, including

1 transportation, power generation, and industry, and has been repeatedly upheld by federal
2 courts of appeals; and

3 WHEREAS, On July 29, 2025, the United States (U.S.) Environmental Protection
4 Agency (EPA) proposed rescinding the 2009 Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding; and

5 WHEREAS, The Endangerment Finding is a prerequisite for regulating greenhouse gas
6 emissions from new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle engines under Section 202 of the
7 Clean Air Act; and

8 WHEREAS, Rescinding the Endangerment Finding is a misguided effort to remove
9 requirements for engine and vehicle manufacturers to measure, control, and report
10 greenhouse gas emissions for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty on-highway vehicles, and to
11 undermine decades of federal climate and air quality protections; and

12 WHEREAS, Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the
13 United States and a major source of harmful co-pollutants that worsen public health
14 outcomes, particularly for low-income communities and communities of color who already face
15 disproportionate environmental burdens; and

16 WHEREAS, San Francisco has long advanced policies to reduce carbon emissions,
17 improve air quality, and protect public health through the City's Climate Action Plan, transit-
18 first policies, and clean vehicle programs; and

19 WHEREAS, The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is a critical regional partner
20 in advancing clean air standards and climate action, and its leadership is vital in opposing
21 federal actions that would weaken protections; and

22 WHEREAS, The EPA's proposal to rescind the Endangerment Finding disregards the
23 scientific consensus that greenhouse gas emissions are a major driver of climate change and
24 jeopardizes public health and safety; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 strongly opposes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to rescind the 2009
3 Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Bay Area Air Quality
5 Management District/Bay Area Air District to adopt a similar position, defend the legal and
6 scientific foundation for regulating greenhouse gas emissions, and advocate for continued
7 federal leadership on climate protections; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms San Francisco's
9 commitment to strong climate and environmental justice policies to protect public health,
10 safeguard vulnerable communities, and preserve a livable future; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit copies of this
12 Resolution to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin, the
13 Bay Area Air Quality Management District/Bay Area Air District Board of Directors and
14 Executive Officer, the California Air Resources Board, the Governor of California, the
15 California Attorney General, and the San Francisco state and federal legislative
16 representatives no later than September 15, 2025, to ensure inclusion in the EPA's public
17 comment record.

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