

1 [Filicide Awareness Week - April 6 through April 12, 2025]

2

3 **Resolution declaring the week of April 6 through April 15, 2025, to be Filicide**
4 **Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco and reaffirming support for**
5 **“Pierce’s Pledge.”**

6

7 WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to
8 raise awareness and take action to protect children from neglect and abuse; and

9 WHEREAS, Among the most devastating forms of child abuse is filicide - the killing of a
10 child by a parent or caregiver - which claims the lives of approximately 500 children in the
11 United States each year; and

12 WHEREAS, Research shows that custody disputes, separations, and high-conflict legal
13 proceedings are among the circumstances that can elevate risk, with an estimated one child
14 each week murdered by a parent or stepparent during such times; and

15 WHEREAS, On January 13, 2021, six-year-old Pierce Howard Hu was tragically killed
16 by his father while he slept, in a murder-suicide that has left an enduring impact on his
17 mother, Lesley, and extended family, including uncles Scott and Michael and grandparents
18 Howard and Therese; and

19 WHEREAS, In response to this tragedy, and in memory of Pierce, a nonprofit
20 organization known as Pierce’s Pledge was formed to protect children involved in family court
21 proceedings by advocating for accountability and firearm safeguards; and

22 WHEREAS, On April 12, 2023, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a
23 resolution declaring the first Filicide Awareness Week and voiced its support for the mission of
24 Pierce’s Pledge; and

25

1 WHEREAS, Two years later, the need for awareness, action, and systems-level
2 change remains as urgent as ever; and

3 WHEREAS, Pierce’s Pledge continues to lead efforts to educate the legal community,
4 support families affected by filicide, and promote practices that reduce the risk of violence -
5 such as requiring clients in custody cases to disclose firearms and store them offsite with a
6 licensed third party during legal representation; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declares the week of April 6
8 through April 12, 2025, as Filicide Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco;
9 and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to the
11 goals of Pierce’s Pledge and commends the organization’s continued work to protect children
12 and empower family law professionals to put safety first; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all family law attorneys to
14 take the pledge to keep children safe during custody proceedings, including requiring the
15 declaration and offsite storage of firearms by their clients, and to refuse representation to any
16 client unwilling to comply; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands firmly
18 against gun violence and recognizes the role that proactive firearm safety measures play in
19 preventing domestic tragedies and protecting the lives of children.

20
21
22
23
24
25