

File No. 250365

Committee Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

Board Item No. 42

# COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: April 15, 2025

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Lisa Lew

Date: April 11, 2025

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1 [Autism Awareness Month - April 2025]

2

3 **Resolution recognizing April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month in the City and County**  
4 **of San Francisco to promote understanding, inclusion, and support for the City’s**  
5 **neurodiverse community.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental condition  
8 that affects communication, behavior, and social interaction, impacting millions of individuals  
9 and families across the nation; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),  
11 approximately 1 in 36 children in the United States is diagnosed with autism, highlighting the  
12 growing need for awareness, support, and early intervention services; and

13 WHEREAS, In California, approximately 900,000 individuals are estimated to be living  
14 with autism, with over 23,000 students in the state’s public schools receiving special  
15 education services for autism as of 2024; and

16 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, the Department of Public Health (DPH) and San  
17 Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) report that the number of students diagnosed with  
18 autism has increased by over 30% in the past decade, underscoring the need for expanded  
19 services and tailored educational programs; and

20 WHEREAS, SFUSD has autism-focused Special Day Classes to address the needs of  
21 students who benefit from smaller and more specialized learning environments for students in  
22 Pre-k through 22 years old; and

23 WHEREAS, San Francisco has made significant strides in supporting individuals with  
24 autism, including the establishment of the Felton Early Autism Program, which provides  
25 inclusive, center-based early intervention services; the launch of the Bay Area Autism

1 Collective, an organization led by autistic individuals to promote self-advocacy and peer  
2 support; and the introduction of sensory-friendly spaces at San Francisco International Airport,  
3 the Exploratorium, and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital to improve accessibility for  
4 neurodiverse individuals; and

5 WHEREAS, The City has also taken steps toward inclusive housing solutions, such as  
6 the Kelsey Civic Center development, which reserves units for individuals with disabilities,  
7 including those with autism, ensuring equitable access to stable and supportive living  
8 environments; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite these advancements, a 2024 report by the San Francisco Human  
10 Rights Commission found that individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities  
11 face higher rates of unemployment and housing instability, with an estimated 80% of autistic  
12 adults in San Francisco experiencing underemployment or unemployment; and

13 WHEREAS, State and local funding for autism services remains critical, particularly as  
14 San Francisco faces challenges related to affordability and the availability of specialized  
15 healthcare providers, with families reporting long wait times for essential diagnostic and  
16 therapeutic services; and

17 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s investment in local programs, such as Bridges from  
18 School to Work, which helps young adults with autism and other disabilities navigate the  
19 transition into the workforce, offers real job opportunities that match talents with employers’  
20 needs, further addressing the city’s unemployment challenges for those with developmental  
21 disabilities; and

22 WHEREAS, The Arc San Francisco’s Youth ACHIEVE program, which partners with  
23 SFUSD, focuses on the transition from high school to employment and further education for  
24 youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ensuring that individuals with autism  
25 gain the skills and support they need to thrive in higher education, jobs, and careers; and

1           WHEREAS, Organizations such as Support for Families of Children with Disabilities  
2 provide vital services to families navigating the complexities of raising children with autism,  
3 offering education, peer support, and individualized assistance to ensure that families are  
4 empowered with the resources they need; and

5           WHEREAS, These programs and others represent important steps toward meeting the  
6 needs of San Francisco’s neurodiverse community, yet gaps remain in access to education,  
7 employment, and social services, underscoring the continued need for investment in  
8 programs that support individuals with autism and their families; and

9           WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month serves as an opportunity to promote  
10 understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals with autism in all aspects of society  
11 while also encouraging further research and policy development to improve their quality of life;  
12 now, therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
14 hereby proclaims April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month in San Francisco and encourages  
15 all residents to participate in activities that promote awareness, education, and inclusion; and,  
16 be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors commends the efforts of local  
18 organizations, advocates, and families working to improve the lives of individuals with autism,  
19 including those supported by programs such as Bridges from School to Work, The Arc San  
20 Francisco Youth ACHIEVE, and Support for Families of Children with Disabilities, and pledges  
21 continued support to policies that enhance services, accessibility, and opportunities for all  
22 those impacted by autism, while also advocating for continued funding at the city level to  
23 address the needs of autistic individuals and their families in San Francisco.

24  
25

## Introduction Form

*(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)*



I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)  
*(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)*
- 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor  inquires..."
- 5. City Attorney Request
- 6. Call File No.  from Committee.
- 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- Small Business Commission       Youth Commission       Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission       Building Inspection Commission       Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- Yes                       No

*(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)*

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

Long Title or text listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

**From:** [Macfie, William \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Yu, Angelina \(BOS\)](#); [Del Rosario, Mick \(BOS\)](#); [Donovan, Dominica \(BOS\)](#); [Hare, Emma \(BOS\)](#); [Mathewson, Melanie \(BOS\)](#); [Gaona, Sasha \(BOS\)](#); [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#); [Ho, KC \(BOS\)](#); [Marie, Sophie \(BOS\)](#); [Bell, Tita \(BOS\)](#); [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [Gutierrez Garcia, Jessica \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: D5 Mahmood - Resolution - Autism Awareness Resolution Introduction  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025 5:00:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi Lisa,

Confirmed.

Thanks!

**William Macfie** | *they/them* | Legislative Aide  
Office of Supervisor Bilal Mahmood  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 5  
City Hall, Room 272  
(415) 554-7687  
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---

**From:** BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025 2:49 PM  
**To:** Macfie, William (BOS) <william.macfie@sfgov.org>; BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Yu, Angelina (BOS) <angelina.yu@sfgov.org>; Del Rosario, Mick (BOS) <mick.delrosario@sfgov.org>; Donovan, Dominica (BOS) <dominica.donovan@sfgov.org>; Hare, Emma (BOS) <emma.hare@sfgov.org>; Mathewson, Melanie (BOS) <melanie.mathewson@sfgov.org>; Gaona, Sasha (BOS) <sasha.gaona@sfgov.org>; Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>; Ho, KC (BOS) <kc.ho@sfgov.org>; Marie, Sophie (BOS) <sophie.marie@sfgov.org>; Bell, Tita (BOS) <tita.bell@sfgov.org>; Mahmood, Bilal (BOS) <bilal.mahmood@sfgov.org>; Gutierrez Garcia, Jessica (BOS) <Jessica.GutierrezGarcia@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** RE: D5 Mahmood - Resolution - Autism Awareness Resolution Introduction

Hi William,

Please see attached draft with clerical edits to the legislation. Kindly review and confirm these changes are acceptable. Thank you.

**Lisa Lew**  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
T 415-554-7718 | F 415-554-5163  
[lisa.lew@sfgov.org](mailto:lisa.lew@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

**(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS)** To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.



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**Subject:** D5 Mahmood - Resolution - Autism Awareness Resolution Introduction

Hi everyone,

Please see attached the introduction form and Autism Awareness resolution from our office.

Supervisors Chan, Sherill, Dorsey, Melgar, Fielder, Walton, Chen, Engardio, Sauter, and President Mandelman are included to confirm co-sponsorship. I am confirming this item is non-controversial in nature and should be treated as a FAWCR.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

**William Macfie** | *they/them* | Legislative Aide

Office of Supervisor Bilal Mahmood

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 5

City Hall, Room 272

(415) 554-7687

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**From:** [Yu, Angelina \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [Macfie, William \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: D5 Mahmood - Resolution - Autism Awareness Resolution Introduction  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025 2:53:26 PM

---

Hi William,

Confirming for Supervisor Chan, thank you!

Angelina

Angelina Yu 余莉娜  
Office of Supervisor Connie Chan, District 1  
[angelina.yu@sfgov.org](mailto:angelina.yu@sfgov.org) | (415) 554-7410  
<https://sfbos.org/supervisor-chan-district-1>

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**To:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Macfie, William \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Goldberg, Jonathan \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Co- Sponsorship Request - Resolution Proclaiming April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month in San Francisco  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025 2:25:00 PM

---

Good afternoon clerks,

Please add Supervisor Engardio as a cosponsor to Supervisor Mahmoud's Resolution Proclaiming April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month in San Francisco. Thank you!

Best,

**Sophie Marie** (she/they)  
Legislative Aide  
Office of Supervisor Joel Engardio  
City Hall, Room 282  
(415) 554-7461

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