

1 [Opposing the Declawing of Cats]

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3 **Resolution urging pet guardians and veterinarians to discontinue the practice of**
4 **declawing cats in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, an onychectomy is often a non-therapeutic amputation, or declawing of the
7 third phalanx (or tip) of a cat's paw; and,

8 WHEREAS, this surgical claw removal severs the attached muscles, tendons, and
9 nerves in the front paws and can lead to bone fragments, arthritis, abscesses, biting, litter box
10 avoidance, and degenerative claw regrowth; and,

11 WHEREAS, more sensible and humane alternatives exist for guarding human safety
12 against cat scratching; and,

13 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, as well as
14 the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights represent a growing statewide and
15 domestic public that oppose the non-therapeutic declawing of cats; and,

16 WHEREAS, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, and the United Kingdom have enacted
17 laws expressly prohibiting the non-therapeutic declawing of cats; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
19 hereby strongly urge cat owners and veterinarians to discontinue the practice of declawing
20 native and exotic cat species.

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