

1 [Supporting California Assembly Bill Nos. 1574 and 1677 (Chiu and Ting) and California
2 Senate Bill 812 (Hill) - Increasing the Safety Oversight and Local Coordination of Tour Buses
3 and Charter Party Bus Carriers]

4 **Resolution supporting California Assembly Bill Nos. 1574 and 1677, authored by**
5 **Assembly Members Chiu and Ting, and California Senate Bill 812, authored by Senator**
6 **Hill, that increase the inspection protocol, safety oversight, and local coordination**
7 **between the Department of Motor Vehicles, the California Public Utilities Committee,**
8 **and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for tour bus and charter-party**
9 **carriers, and for both legislative bodies to pass the bills.**

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11 WHEREAS, San Francisco is the 25th most visited city in the world, and tour buses
12 and charter-party carriers are frequently used by tourists to visit famous landmarks; and

13 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco adapted Vision Zero as a policy in
14 2014; and

15 WHEREAS, In the past few years San Francisco has experienced an increase in
16 accidents, injuries, and fatalities caused by tour bus and charter bus operators; and

17 WHEREAS, On October 23, 2014, a city employee was killed outside city hall by a tour
18 bus, on November 13, 2015, a tour bus crashed in Union Square injuring 20 people, and on
19 January 16, 2016 an 82 year-old San Francisco resident was killed by a tour bus; and

20 WHEREAS, The company operating the tour bus in the Union Square incident had a
21 history of safety problems and was not properly registered; and

22 WHEREAS, The California Public Utilities Committee (CPUC) recently reported that
23 12,613 buses are registered, yet industry estimates indicate that around 30,000 buses are
24 operating across the state; and

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1 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill No. 1677 (AB1677) directs the California Highway
2 Patrol to work in conjunction with local agencies to create local supplementary inspection
3 programs for tour bus companies that would supplement required yearly state inspections of
4 tour buses; and

5 WHEREAS, Tour buses must be registered with the state’s Department of Motor
6 Vehicles (DMV), but the DMV is not required to share registered bus information with the
7 CPUC; and

8 WHEREAS, This loophole means that one state agency, the DMV, knows a tour bus is
9 on our roads, but the lead regulatory entity, the CPUC, does not; and

10 WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill No. 1574 (AB1574) the Tour Bus Registration Act,
11 will require the implementation of a process to identify “ghost” charters that are not properly
12 registered with the CPUC, such as the one involved in Union Square accident; and

13 WHEREAS, AB1574 will reduce the number of tour buses operating without the
14 knowledge of the CPUC by requiring increased coordination between the DMV and the CPUC
15 to identify unregistered tour buses; and

16 WHEREAS, California Senate Bill 812 (SB812) would require the Public Utilities
17 Commission to monitor recall notification of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
18 and require the charter party carriers to order affected vehicles to be placed out of service
19 until safety defects are addressed; and

20 WHEREAS, AB1574 and SB812 are supported by the San Francisco Transportation
21 Authority; and

22 WHEREAS, AB1574 and AB1677 are supported by the California Bicycle Coalition,
23 The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Walk SF; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors states their support for AB1574, AB1677,
25 and SB812, and urges the Senate and Assembly to pass this package of bills; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
2 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies to Senator Hill, Assembly Member David Chiu,
3 Assembly Member Phil Ting with a request to take all action necessary to achieve the
4 objectives of this Resolution.

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