

1 [Family Economic Self Sufficiency]

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3 **Resolution adopting “Family Economic Self Sufficiency” as a goal toward which the**  
4 **City and County will strive to achieve and will make concerted efforts to move families**  
5 **out of poverty towards economic self-sufficiency through legislation initiative,**  
6 **budgetary planning decisions and executive policy directives.**

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8 WHEREAS, According to the Californians for Family Economic Self Sufficiency and  
9 The National Economic Development & Law Center, a single parent raising two young  
10 children in San Francisco would have to effectively hold down three full-time minimum wage  
11 jobs in order to make ends meet; and

12 WHEREAS, The cost of living for working families in the City and County of San  
13 Francisco has risen by 70% since 1996; whereas, costs rose by just 29% in Los Angeles  
14 County over the same period; and

15 WHEREAS, A single person living in San Francisco must earn \$13.26 per hour to pay  
16 for food, rent, child care, transportation, health care, taxes, and miscellaneous expenses; and

17 WHEREAS, Almost 15% of all Bay Area households, over 290,000 households, have  
18 one or more members working, but have household incomes too low to pay for basic needs;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The definition of “family economic self-sufficiency” is that individuals and  
21 families have enough income to cover their basic costs of living and working (food, rent, child  
22 care, transportation, health care, miscellaneous costs and taxes); and

23 WHEREAS, The Self Sufficiency Standard for California describes the amount of  
24 income necessary to meet these basic needs for 70 different family types; and

25 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Workforce Investment Board has adopted the Self  
Sufficiency Standard and uses it as an eligibility criterion for job training; and

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WHEREAS, Many Bay Area public agencies, non-profit organization and foundations utilize the Self Sufficiency Standard as a data resource, a funding criterion, and a counseling tool; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Poverty Line is inadequate to accurately describe the actual costs of living for working families in San Francisco, since it is calculated using the cost of food times three and does not include other substantial costs such as housing or child care; and

WHEREAS, One out of five Bay Area households have incomes between the Federal Poverty Line and the Self Sufficiency Standard, leaving these families in a gap between the poverty line and economic independence; and

WHEREAS, The California State Legislature adopted a resolution in 2004 urging the federal government to use a self-sufficiency index in place of the Federal Poverty Line (SJR 15); and

WHEREAS, Connecticut and Illinois calculate a state-sponsored self-sufficiency index, and public agencies all over the country have adopted the Self Sufficiency Standard as an indicator of well-being, a counseling tool, and a benchmarking tool; and

WHEREAS, The Self Sufficiency Standard uses publicly available and regularly updated data sources, including HUD, California Department of Education, California Department of Managed Care, the California Franchise Tax Board and the U.S. Census; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby adopts “Family Economic Self-sufficiency” as a goal toward which the City and County will strive to achieve and will make concerted efforts to move families out of poverty towards economic self-sufficiency through legislation initiative, budgetary planning decisions and executive policy directives; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors adopts the California Self Sufficiency Standard as an accurate measure of the income required to pay for basic needs in San Francisco; and

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2           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Clerk of the Board to  
3 notify to all relevant City Departments that directly provide services to the public, by alerting  
4 them of the City's adoption of the Self Sufficiency Standard by delivering a copy of this  
5 resolution upon passage.  
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