[Commending the "Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative" for their efforts.]

Resolution commending the "Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative" for their efforts to increase the claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset development and other benefit programs

WHEREAS, San Francisco residents have begun preparations to file their income tax returns between January 31 and April 15, 2004; and

WHEREAS, income tax preparation is often a complicated process that usually benefits from expert tax preparation assistance; and

WHEREAS, tax preparation assistance can help low-income families take advantage of federal tax benefits such as the **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC)**, and receive up to \$4,200 in tax refunds — a significant amount for families struggling to make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, tax preparation assistance can cost as much as \$300, a fee that is out of reach for most low-income families; and

WHEREAS, because many low-income San Francisco families lack access to tax preparation assistance, there are more than 10,000 taxpayers in the county who don't claim the EITC benefits they are eligible for, thus missing out on approximately \$5.8 million in EITC funds annually; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that the significant loss of millions of dollars of tax benefits to the county's low-income families can affect their economic security, United Way of the Bay Area, Tax-Aid, EARN, Internal Revenue Service, San Francisco Department of Human

Services, Federal Reserve Bank and SF Works have come together to convene **Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco**, a multi-sectoral collaboration that seeks to build the assets of low-income families in the county; and

WHEREAS, **Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco** is an effort to increase the claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset development and other benefit programs; and

WHEREAS, Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco relies on volunteers to help low-income taxpayers fill out federal and state income tax returns and file for EITC and CTC tax benefits. The volunteers are trained in partnership with Tax-Aid and IRS in income tax preparation and will provide free tax preparation assistance 23 sites throughout the city, and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco City and County Board of Supervisors commends the "Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative" for their efforts to increase the claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset development and other benefit programs. The Board of Supervisors encourages eligible residents to visit a VITA site and get free tax preparation assistance.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Resolution

File Number:

040122

**Date Passed:** 

Resolution commending the "Earn It! Keep It! Save It! San Francisco Initiative" for their efforts to increase the claiming of EITC, Child Tax Credit and other state and federal tax credits through free tax preparation assistance, as well as to link low-income families to financial education, asset development and other benefit programs

February 3, 2004 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Gonzalez, Hall, Ma, McGoldrick,

Peskin, Sandoval Absent: 1 - Maxwell File No. 040122

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 3, 2004 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young/ Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom

T 12 mm.

**Date Approved** 

File No. 040122