

1 [Supporting Sustainable Harvesting and Providing Consumer Information for Labeling of  
2 Seafood]

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4 **Resolution supporting the promotion of sustainable harvesting and providing consumer**  
5 **information for labeling of seafood in San Francisco restaurants and markets.**

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7 WHEREAS, San Francisco is world renowned for its Fishermen’s Wharf, its local  
8 seafood and its seafood restaurants; and,

9 WHEREAS, Fishing remains a vibrant part of San Francisco’s economy and culture,  
10 employing thousands in the catching, processing, distribution, and sales of seafood; and,

11 WHEREAS, Fish and seafood consumption in San Francisco is among the highest per  
12 capita in the nation; and,

13 WHEREAS, The people of San Francisco expect their seafood to be of high quality,  
14 safe to eat, and harvested in a manner that is neither destructive to fish populations or the  
15 environment; and,

16 WHEREAS, Much of the seafood coming to San Francisco may come from areas of  
17 the world where waters may be polluted or have high levels of toxins, fishing practices are not  
18 sustainable and may be harmful to wildlife and the environment; and,

19 WHEREAS, The consumption of such products undermines fish conservation,  
20 environmental protection and the economic viability of San Francisco’s fishing fleet; and,

21 WHEREAS, Unsustainable fishing practices in many parts of the world, including some  
22 in the US, have resulted in depleted fish populations and the destruction of marine wildlife and  
23 the environment; and,

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1           WHEREAS, Consumers would benefit from information which would help them  
2 distinguish between fish that have been harvested in a sustainable way and that which have  
3 not; and,

4           WHEREAS, Congress passed the Farm Bill of 2002 which mandated the labeling of  
5 fish and seafood by country of origin and whether the fish is wild or farmed by 2004, but does  
6 not require such labeling of fish sold in restaurants, the accurate labeling of the fish by  
7 species, the way the fish is harvested, or any health warnings; and

8           WHEREAS, Bay Area restaurants are already engaged in informing customers about  
9 the fish that is served; now, therefore, be it

10          RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
11 encourages the consumption of locally caught seafood and fish harvested in a sustainable  
12 way and encourages restaurants and markets featuring seafood to give preference to local  
13 seafood and seafood harvested in a sustainable way; and be it

14          FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
15 Francisco urges seafood markets and restaurants to provide consumers with information as to  
16 the species or species group of fish or shellfish, the gear or fishing method used to harvest  
17 the fish, and where the seafood was caught or grown, and the known health benefits or risks  
18 associated with the consumption of that fish or shellfish; and be it

19          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
20 Francisco hereby commends restaurants for their commitment to sustainable environmental  
21 practices; and be it

22          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
23 Francisco commends the Golden Gate Restaurant Association, which represents over 600  
24 member restaurants, for its leadership, involvement and support of these efforts to better  
25 inform and educate restaurant customers; and be it

1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
2 Francisco urges the environment and consumer advocacy community to assist seafood  
3 markets and restaurants in developing consumer information in Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean  
4 and Spanish to ensure that this information is understood.

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