

1 [Urging Contributions to Ameliorate the Effects of Slavery]

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3 **Resolution urging the City Administrator and City Controller to encourage city**
4 **contractors that have participated and/or profited from slave trades to make voluntary**
5 **contributions to ameliorate the legacy of slavery.**

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7 WHEREAS, Many San Francisco residents are descendants of people subjected to
8 slavery, and the impacts of slavery in the United States continues to have a harmful impact on
9 the experiences and outcomes of Black and African American people in San Francisco; and

10 WHEREAS, People forced into slavery were dehumanized, snatched from their
11 families, and coerced into performing labor without appropriate compensation or benefits, and
12 were defined and insured as private property, and used as collateral for insurance policies,
13 loans and other transactions; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance No. 275-06, Slavery
15 Era Disclosure, requiring city contractors providing insurance and insurance services, financial
16 services, or textiles to the City to disclose any participation in the slave trade; and

17 WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 275-06 also created an account, through the City
18 Controller’s office, for contractors subject to the Ordinance to make voluntary contributions,
19 and requiring that monies donated to this account be used to fund economic development and
20 educational initiatives designed to ameliorate the effects of slavery upon the residents of San
21 Francisco; and

22 WHEREAS, Insurance policies from the American slavery era documented insurance
23 coverage to slaveholders for damage to or death of people subjected to slavery, and financial
24 services firms bought or sold people subjected to slavery, provided loans to purchase people
25 subjected to slavery, and profited from the trade of people subjected to slavery; and

1 WHEREAS, In filing an affidavit in compliance with this Ordinance, U.S. Bank has
2 identified relevant records that its predecessor companies participated in and benefited from
3 the slave trade; and

4 WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 275-06 requires that the Office of the City Administrator
5 encourage all contractors subject to the ordinance to make voluntary contributions to an
6 account to be used to ameliorate the legacy of the slavery era on persons subjected to slavery
7 and their descendants; and

8 WHEREAS, In February of 2015, the Office of the City Administrator sent letters
9 requesting voluntary contributions from all City vendors covered by Ordinance No. 275-06,
10 and no responses were received; and

11 WHEREAS, In August 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed
12 Resolution No. 376-20 supporting a reparations plan that will comprehensively address the
13 inequities that exist in the African American community as a result of slavery's legacy of
14 systemic oppression and creation of an advisory committee for the African American
15 community; and

16 WHEREAS, In December 2020, Ordinance No. 259-20 officially established the African
17 American Reparations Advisory Committee (AARAC) to advise the Board of Supervisors, the
18 Mayor, the Human Rights Commission, and the public regarding the development, adoption,
19 and implementation of a San Francisco Reparations Plan that determines the scope and
20 eligibility for a citywide reparations program, examines current structural discrimination within
21 San Francisco, and proposes institutional reforms to guard against the need for future
22 redress; and

23 WHEREAS, The AARAC began convening in June 2021, and released the first draft of
24 the San Francisco Reparations Plan in December 2022; this first draft was heard at the
25 Committee of the Whole on March 14, 2023, at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors; and

1 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2023, the AARAC released the final San Francisco
2 Reparations Plan 2023, prepared by the Human Rights Commission and a digital copy was
3 sent to the Board of Supervisors; the Board of Supervisors will hear the final report at the
4 Committee of the Whole scheduled for the September 19, 2023, Board of Supervisors
5 meeting; and

6 WHEREAS, Requesting voluntary contributions from all City vendors covered by
7 Ordinance No. 275-06, that have or have had their predecessor firms profited or participated
8 in slavery, directly supports San Francisco’s reparations efforts on the long historical impacts
9 of slavery; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 urges the Office of the City Administrator and City Controller to send letters to all City vendors
12 covered by Ordinance No. 275-06 to encourage them to make voluntary contributions to
13 ameliorate the effects of slavery as part of San Francisco’s reparations efforts.

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