

1 [Opposing State Ballot Initiative Limiting Voters’ and Local Governments’ Ability to Raise
2 Revenues for Public Services]

3 **Resolution opposing State Ballot Initiative 21-0042A1, which qualified for the November**
4 **2024 statewide ballot, and which purports to further severely limit the ability of voters**
5 **and local governments to raise revenues for government services.**

6
7 WHEREAS, An association representing California’s wealthiest corporations and
8 developers supported the petition for State Ballot Initiative 21-0042A1, the so-called
9 “Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act” (the “Initiative”), a proposition that
10 qualified for the November 2024 statewide ballot on February 1, 2023; and

11 WHEREAS, The Initiative includes provisions that could make it much more difficult for
12 local voters to pass tax measures needed to fund local services and infrastructure, and would
13 purport to limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters provide
14 direction on how they want their local tax dollars spent; and

15 WHEREAS, The Initiative would purport to invalidate rules that California court
16 decisions have established in furtherance of constitutional initiative rights, upholding a
17 majority voter threshold for voter-initiated special taxes, instead requiring a two-thirds vote of
18 the electorate to pass such taxes; if the Initiative had been in effect in 2018, June 2018
19 Proposition C (the Early Care and Education Commercial Rents Tax), June 2018
20 Proposition G (the Living Wage for Educators Parcel Tax), and November 2018 Proposition C
21 (the Homelessness Gross Receipts Tax) would not have passed, depriving the City of crucial
22 funding for our schools, early childcare and education, and homelessness services; and

23 WHEREAS, The Initiative would purport to change the existing constitutional rules to
24 allow corporations to pay far less than their fair share for the impacts they have on our
25

1 communities, including, without limitation, local infrastructure, public transportation, public
2 education, and our environment; and

3 WHEREAS, The Initiative may make it much more difficult for state and local regulators
4 to issue fines and levies on corporations that violate laws protecting our environment, public
5 health and safety, and our neighborhoods; and

6 WHEREAS, The Initiative purports to apply to taxes, fees, and other charges adopted
7 after January 1, 2022, which puts at risk statewide billions of dollars currently dedicated to
8 local services, and could force funding cuts to fire and emergency response, law enforcement,
9 public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents,
10 mental health services, and more; and

11 WHEREAS, This purported application to taxes, fees, and other charges that have
12 passed since to January 1, 2022, puts at risk November 2022 Proposition M (the Empty
13 Homes Tax Ordinance), which was estimated to bring in additional revenue to the City
14 exceeding \$20 million annually, and many City fees, fines, penalties, and other charges the
15 City passed since January 1, 2022; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That based on the potential harms to crucial City services and needless
17 rollbacks of existing constitutional law, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of
18 San Francisco opposes the Initiative; and

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of
20 San Francisco hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to
21 the California Secretary of State, California State Legislature, and Governor Gavin Newsom.
22
23
24
25