

1 [Celebrating Juneteenth in San Francisco]

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3 **Resolution celebrating Juneteenth as a day of reflection, empowerment, and**  
4 **commemoration of Black freedom and excellence in the City and County of San**  
5 **Francisco and urging all San Franciscans to join in honoring this important day.**  
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7 WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as “Juneteenth Independence Day,”  
8 “Emancipation Day,” “Emancipation Celebration,” and “Freedom Day,” is the oldest African  
9 American holiday observance in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day, Freedom Day,  
11 and Black Independence Day, commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers arrived in  
12 Galveston, Texas, and announced the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery in the  
13 United States to enslaved Black people and began to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation,  
14 which had been issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, more than two  
15 years prior; and

16 WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been celebrated annually on June 19th in various parts of  
17 the United States since 1865, becoming a time for reflection, rejoicing, and empowerment  
18 within African American communities, acknowledging their history, heritage, and resilience;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, On June 17, 2021, Juneteenth was officially recognized as a federal  
21 holiday by President Joe Biden, following the passage of the Juneteenth National  
22 Independence Day Act by the United States Congress, acknowledging its profound  
23 significance in American history; and  
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1           WHEREAS, Following President Joe Biden's Resolution declaring Juneteenth a federal  
2 holiday, Mayor London Breed signed an order declaring June 19 an official holiday in San  
3 Francisco and encouraged residents to participate in Juneteenth events; and

4           WHEREAS, Although Juneteenth became a national holiday in 2021, San Francisco  
5 has long held events and celebrations for Juneteenth annually since 1950 with a festival and  
6 parade along Fillmore Street and celebrations have since expanded to many neighborhoods;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as a reminder of the long and ongoing struggle for  
9 Black liberation, justice, and equality, and highlights the continued need to address systemic  
10 racism and its impacts on Black communities in San Francisco and beyond especially in the  
11 current times; now, therefore, be it

12          RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
13 celebrates Juneteenth as a vital day of remembrance and action, and urges all San  
14 Franciscans to reflect on the enduring contributions of Black Americans to our City and nation;  
15 and, be it

16          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors encourages all employers,  
17 businesses, and institutions in San Francisco to honor Juneteenth as a day of  
18 commemoration by closing operations where possible, offering employees paid time off, or  
19 providing overtime pay in recognition of the holiday, and supporting opportunities for workers  
20 and students to participate in Juneteenth events without adverse consequence; and, be it

21          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to  
22 advancing equity, dismantling structural racism, and building a San Francisco where freedom,  
23 justice, and opportunity become a reality for everyone.