1   [National Service Dog Awareness Month - September 2024]

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3   **Resolution recognizing September 2024 as National Service Dog Awareness**

4   **Month in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6   WHEREAS, The bond between humans and canines is not only a source of joy

7   but also a powerful force for transforming lives, fostering inclusivity, and enhancing the

8   well-being of all citizens; and

9   WHEREAS, In the United States, over 64 million adults and children live with

10 disabilities, yet only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs currently

11 serve these individuals, highlighting a significant and growing gap between the need for

12 service dogs and their availability; and

13   WHEREAS, Canine Companions, the largest nonprofit provider of service dogs

14 in the country, has provided over 7,200 expertly trained service dogs to people with

15 disabilities since its founding in 1975, significantly enhancing their quality of life and

16 independence; and

17   WHEREAS, Canine Companions empowers people with disabilities by offering

18 service dogs trained to perform over 40 specialized commands, providing ongoing

19 support, and fostering a community dedicated to ensuring successful and lifelong

20 partnerships between service dogs and their handlers; and

21   WHEREAS, National Service Dog Month is dedicated to raising awareness and

22 educating the public about the invaluable benefits that service dogs provide, as well as

23 the federal laws that protect the rights of people with disabilities to be accompanied by

24 their service dogs in public spaces; and

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Supervisor Stefani
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS   Page 1

1   WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is committed to becoming a

2 truly inclusive community, where all residents, including those with disabilities and their

3 service dogs, are recognized, supported, and valued; now, therefore, be it

4   RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors officially recognizes

5 September 2024 as National Service Dog Awareness Month.

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