

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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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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