

1 [Urging Congress to Pass H.R. 5502 - INFORM Consumers Act]

2

3 **Resolution urging Congress to pass H.R. 5502, the INFORM Consumers Act, requiring**  
4 **online marketplaces to collect, verify, and disclose certain information from high-**  
5 **volume, third-party sellers, with no further amendments.**

6

7 WHEREAS, In July, Target announced that it will close all San Francisco stores at 6pm  
8 due to organized retail theft; and

9 WHEREAS, Last month Walgreens announced it will close five stores in San Francisco  
10 due to organized retail theft; and

11 WHEREAS, Safeway recently reduced hours at its formerly 24-hour Market and  
12 Church Street location to a 9pm closing time; and

13 WHEREAS, Safeway's most recent 6-month inventory revealed their Market and  
14 Church store had the worst rate of theft of any location in the history of the company; and

15 WHEREAS, Organized retail theft is also up nationwide, accounting for approximately  
16 \$45 billion in annual losses for retailers, according to the Coalition of Law Enforcement and  
17 Retail; and

18 WHEREAS, A significant portion of the merchandise stolen by organized retail theft  
19 operations is ultimately sold online, with CVS alone expecting to close approximately 73 e-  
20 commerce cases this year involving \$104 million of goods sold on Amazon; and

21 WHEREAS, On March 23, Senator Richard Durbin introduced S. 936, the INFORM  
22 Consumers Act; and

23 WHEREAS, The INFORM Consumers Act would require online marketplaces to collect,  
24 verify, and disclose certain information from high-volume, third-party sellers; and

25

1           WHEREAS, The INFORM Consumers Act would require online marketplaces to make  
2 certain information about high-volume sellers available to consumers through the sellers'  
3 product listings and provide consumers with methods to report any suspicious activity; and

4           WHEREAS, In the months since Senator Durbin introduced the INFORM Consumers  
5 Act, e-commerce companies lobbied against it, resulting in a compromise bill - H.R. 5502; and

6           WHEREAS, On November 4, Senators Richard Durbin and Bill Cassidy introduced  
7 H.R. 5502 as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act to expedite its  
8 passage; and

9           WHEREAS, Organized retail theft remains the primary concern of most large retailers  
10 in San Francisco; and

11           WHEREAS, The closure and reduction in hours of large retail stores disproportionately  
12 impacts lower-income San Franciscans who rely on these increasingly rare sources of  
13 affordable groceries; and

14           WHEREAS, The INFORM Consumers Act represents the most realistic short-term path  
15 toward increased accountability for e-commerce companies; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
17 hereby urges Congress to immediately pass H.R. 5502 with no further amendments; and, be it

18           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the  
19 Board to forward copies of this resolution to the offices of Speaker Pelosi, Senator Feinstein,  
20 and Senator Padilla.

21  
22  
23  
24  
25