[Supporting Language Access for Crime Victims and a Victim Services Language Bank]

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Resolution supporting strengthening of language access and support for victims of crime and the creation of a Victim Services Language Bank to support most crime and hate incident victims who do not go through the criminal justice system and require coordinated assistance from both community and city agencies.

WHEREAS, On April 12, 2020, the Crime Victim Data Disclosure Ordinance File
191074 authored by Supervisor Gordon Mar was enacted, requiring the San Francisco Police
Department to provide quarterly reports on victim data; and

WHEREAS, According to the Crime Victim Data Disclosure Ordinance annual report, anti-Asian hate crimes in San Francisco increased by over 567% from 2020 to 2021; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2022 Language Access Compliance Summary Report, 19.5% of San Franciscans identify as Limited English Proficient; and

WHEREAS, Immigrant and Limited English Proficient populations are especially vulnerable to and targeted for crime due to language barriers; and

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Police Accountability July 2020 Annual Language Access Report, there were 3602 Limited English Proficient calls for service requiring a SFPD incident report; and

WHEREAS, In the 2022 Language Access Compliance Summary Report, a Community Survey was conducted with over 2,000 residents, and a majority of Limited English Proficient respondents (74%) stated that language was a barrier to accessing the services they needed, yet the number of city bilingual staff has declined over 50% from a high of 5,614 staff in 2016-17 to 2,432 in 2020-21; and

WHEREAS, The Human Rights Commission (HRC) Citywide Public Safety Landscape Analysis included a recommendation to: "Collaborate with community organizations to confirm which languages to prioritize for support immediately, incorporating Census data, data from existing service programs, and an equity lens. Ensure that languages that may commonly be considered a 'dialect' are not undercounted in this process;" and

WHEREAS, The HRC analysis also included a recommendation to: "Coordinate through OCEIA to ensure that City departments provide full access in these languages. Inperson specialized interpretation should be readily available for all sensitive or emergency situations (e.g. violence, trauma), and interpreters should be familiar with specific neighborhoods and communities;" and

WHEREAS, The Asian Women's Shelter pioneered a successful language bank of community interpreters, using a Multilingual Access Model that supports Limited English Proficient domestic violence survivors; and

WHEREAS, A Victim Services Language Bank can strengthen language access for crime and hate incident victims, provide dedicated language service specialists, coordinate language assistance and services across departments, and provide grants to Community Based Organizations to provide training for interpreters; and

WHEREAS, A Victim Services Language Bank conducted by the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs can identify best practices and develop a scalable model with metrics to evaluate outcomes and effectiveness of a; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Mayor Breed and City departments to strengthen language access and support for victims of crime and hate incidents and implement key language access recommendations in the HRC Citywide Public Safety Landscape Analysis report; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports the creation of a Victim Services Language Bank to support the vast majority of victims who may not want or have incidents that ultimately go through the criminal justice system and focus on victims that may not typically receive support from the District Attorney's Victim Services Division, but who require coordinated assistance from both community and city agencies.



City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number: 220552

Date Passed: May 17, 2022

Resolution supporting strengthening of language access and support for victims of crime and the creation of a Victim Services Language Bank to support most crime and hate incident victims who do not go through the criminal justice system and require coordinated assistance from both community and city agencies.

May 17, 2022 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING NEW TITLE

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and

Walton

Excused: 1 - Mandelman

May 17, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and

Walton

Excused: 1 - Mandelman

File No. 220552

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 5/17/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor 05/27/2022

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo

05/27/2022

Date