

1 [Opposing State Ballot Initiative Limiting Voters’ and Local Governments’ Ability to Raise
2 Revenues for Public Services]

3 **Resolution opposing State Ballot Initiative 21-0042A1, which qualified for the November**
4 **2024 statewide ballot, and will further severely limit the ability of voters and local**
5 **governments to raise revenues for government services.**

6
7 WHEREAS, An association representing California’s wealthiest corporations and
8 developers supported the petition for State Ballot Initiative 21-0042A1, the so-called
9 “Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act” (the “Initiative”), a proposition that
10 qualified for the November 2024 statewide ballot on February 1, 2023; and

11 WHEREAS, The Initiative includes provisions that could make it much more difficult for
12 local voters to pass tax measures needed to fund local services and infrastructure, and would
13 limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters provide direction on how
14 they want their local tax dollars spent; and

15 WHEREAS, The Initiative would invalidate rules that the California court decisions have
16 established in furtherance of constitutional initiative rights, upholding a majority voter
17 threshold for voter-initiated special taxes, instead requiring a two-thirds vote of the electorate
18 to pass such taxes; if the Initiative had been in effect in 2018, June 2018 Proposition C (the
19 Early Care and Education Commercial Rents Tax), June 2018 Proposition G (the Living Wage
20 for Educators Parcel Tax), and November 2018 Proposition C (the Homelessness Gross
21 Receipts Tax) would not have passed, depriving the City of crucial funding for our schools,
22 early childcare and education, and homelessness services; and

23 WHEREAS, The Initiative would change the existing constitutional rules to allow
24 corporations to pay far less than their fair share for the impacts they have on our communities,
25

1 including, without limitation, local infrastructure, public transportation, public education, and
2 our environment; and

3 WHEREAS, The Initiative may make it much more difficult for state and local regulators
4 to issue fines and levies on corporations that violate laws protecting our environment, public
5 health and safety, and our neighborhoods; and

6 WHEREAS, The Initiative will apply to taxes, fees, and other charges adopted after
7 January 1, 2022, which puts at risk statewide billions of dollars currently dedicated to local
8 services, and could force funding cuts to fire and emergency response, law enforcement,
9 public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents,
10 mental health services, and more; and

11 WHEREAS, This application to measures that have passed since to January 1, 2022,
12 puts at risk the November 2022 Proposition M (the Empty Homes Tax Ordinance), which was
13 estimated to bring in additional revenue to the City exceeding \$20 million annually, and many
14 City fees, fines, penalties, and other charges the City passed since January 1, 2022; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That based on the potential harms to crucial City services and needless
17 rollbacks of existing constitutional law, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
18 Francisco opposes the Initiative; and

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
20 Francisco hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the
21 California Secretary of State, California State Legislature, and Governor Gavin Newsom.

22
23
24
25