


BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

Date: June 8, 2023
To: Manijeh Fata, Executive Director, Film SF
From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors
Subject: Supporting the Writers' Guild of America West in Their Campaign for Fair Compensation and Reasonable Working Conditions (File No. 230545)

On May 16, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 273-23, sponsored by Supervisor Ahsha Safai (File No. 230545, Supporting the Writers' Guild of America West in Their Campaign for Fair Compensation and Reasonable Working Conditions) enacted on May 26, 2023.

Please find the attached courtesy copy of the Resolution for your office's information and consideration.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184.

c: Members of the Board of Supervisors, Supervisors Ahsha Safai, Joel Engardio, Myrna Melgar, Aaron Peskin, Shamann Walton, Hillary Ronen, Dean Preston, Catherine Stefani, Rafael Mandelman, Connie Chan, Matt Dorsey
Tom Paulino, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors
Sarah Owens, Mayor's Manager of State and Federal Legislative Affairs
Andres Power, Mayor's Policy Director
Susanna Conine-Nakano, Mayor's Office
Paul Yoder, Karen Lange, Erica Smith, City Lobbyists - Shaw/Yoder/Antwih Inc.

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1 [Supporting the Writers' Guild of America West in Their Campaign for Fair Compensation and
2 Reasonable Working Conditions]

3 **Resolution supporting the Writers' Guild of America West in their campaign for fair**
4 **compensation and reasonable working conditions, urging the employers to negotiate**
5 **in good faith to swiftly reach an agreement that recognizes the writers' important work,**
6 **and urging the Film Office to report on the strike impact on a regular basis.**

7
8 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to some of the most iconic films and television
9 shows in history, none of which would have been possible without hardworking, creative
10 writers who tell our stories; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco has taken bold action to support the film and television
12 industry in our state and country through the enactment of our Film Rebate Program that
13 provides up to \$600,000 in rebates for City fees to qualified productions; and

14 WHEREAS, These qualified productions showcase San Francisco, put many people to
15 work, and support small businesses and other vendors each time a new production comes to
16 San Francisco; and

17 WHEREAS, It is the expectation of the City and County of San Francisco that working
18 people will be treated with dignity and respect, paid fair wages and work under reasonable
19 working conditions; and

20 WHEREAS, In a changing entertainment and economic landscape, it is more crucial
21 than ever that we preserve standards in wages, benefits and working conditions; and

22 WHEREAS, Writers are demanding increased minimum compensation, standardization
23 of residuals, increased contributions to the pension plan and health fund, and increased
24 professional standards and protections in the employment of writers; and

1 WHEREAS, President Joe Biden called for the writers to get the “fair deal they deserve
2 as soon as possible”; and

3 WHEREAS, Other leading federal officials such as US Senator Bernie Sanders,
4 Representatives Adam Schiff and Katie Porter have issued statements in support; and

5 WHEREAS, The Writers’ Guild of America West took a Strike Authorization Vote (SAV)
6 from April 11th through April 17, 2023 authorizing a strike if an acceptable offer was not made
7 by May 1, 2023; and

8 WHEREAS, Writers have been on strike for more than a week and it is essential for
9 elected leaders to endorse these demands in solidarity and support; and

10 WHEREAS, We must track the economic impact on the City and County of San
11 Francisco from the strike; and

12 WHEREAS, A swift and just resolution will benefit employers, writers, other workers,
13 local governments and the entire community; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports the Writers’ Guild
15 of America West in their campaign for fair compensation and reasonable working conditions;
16 and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges
18 employers to negotiate in good faith to swiftly reach an agreement with the Writers’ Guild that
19 recognizes their important work; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Film
21 Office to report on the impact of the strike on issued permits, film rebates and production days
22 and report back to this Board on a regular basis, at least once every 30 days.

