FILE NO. 250953 RESOLUTION NO.

[Chuseok Festival Day - September 27, 2025 - Korean Chuseok Day - October 6, 2025]

Resolution recognizing September 27, 2025, as Chuseok Festival Day; recognizing October 6, 2025, as Korean Chuseok Day; and honoring the Korean Center, Inc. for hosting the Seventh Annual Bay Area Korean Chuseok Festival in the Presidio and for its contributions to the Korean American community in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Korean Chuseok Day, known colloquially as Korean Thanksgiving, is a harvest festival celebrated at the autumn equinox of the Lunar Calendar and is one of the most important and widely celebrated holidays in Korean culture and its diaspora; and

WHEREAS, With roots dating back over 2,000 years, Chuseok Day has been recognized as a Korean national holiday since 1949, and its celebration has since spread worldwide as Korean communities have flourished in various countries; and

WHEREAS, Korean Americans are the fifth largest Asian American ethnic group in the United States, with a population of over 1.8 million, including more than 500,000 in California and 60,000 in San Francisco alone; and

WHEREAS, Consequently, Korean Americans have contributed immeasurably to the culture and history of this city, state, and country; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has been a principal port of entry for Korean immigrants since the early 1900s and even more recently since the repeal of restrictive immigration quotas in 1965, making San Francisco a thriving center of political activism and cultural importance for Koreans and Korean Americans since the late 19th century; and

WHEREAS, This special relationship began in 1883 when Bobingsa, the first Korean diplomatic delegation dispatched to the United States led by Prince Min Young-lk, had San

Francisco as its first destination, and the delegation stayed at the Palace Hotel located on 2 New Montgomery Street; and

WHEREAS, The community-oriented Korean National Association was founded in San Francisco in 1909, functioning as a de facto government in exile for Koreans rendered stateless in 1910, and the Association's newspaper Shinhan Minbo provided knowledge and assistance to immigrants across the Korean diaspora even after Korea's liberation from Japan in 1945; and

WHEREAS, 2025 also commemorates the 80th anniversary of Korea’s Liberation Day, a day to honor the sacrifices of the Korean people in their struggle for independence and to celebrate the enduring spirit of freedom and self-determination that continues to inspire Korean Americans today; and

WHEREAS, This unique bond between San Francisco, the United States’ growing Korean American community, and the Republic of Korea was honored by the installation of the Taedong Statue, located at Susan Bierman Park on the Embarcadero and donated in 1983 by the government and people of the Republic of Korea; and

WHEREAS, This year carries special significance as it marks the 50th anniversary of the Korean Center, Inc., a milestone that reflects five decades of dedicated service, advocacy, and cultural preservation in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Korean Center, Inc., established in 1974, has played a vital role in maintaining this diplomatic relationship by serving as a cornerstone of the Korean American community in San Francisco, providing vital services and programs that have positively impacted the lives of countless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, The Korean Center, Inc. has been a driving force in preserving and promoting Korean culture and heritage in San Francisco, offering language classes, traditional music and dance performances, art exhibitions, and cultural workshops that have deepened

the understanding and appreciation of Korean traditions among both Korean Americans and the wider community; and

WHEREAS, The Korean Center, Inc. has actively advocated for the rights and welfare of the Korean American community, addressing issues such as immigration policies, healthcare access, language assistance, and educational equity, working towards creating a more inclusive and equitable society for Korean Americans in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Korean American community's contributions are immeasurable despite facing serious economic obstacles and social barriers, becoming a crucial part of the tapestry of communities that make San Francisco the city we know and love; and

WHEREAS, It is important for San Francisco to recognize Korean Chuseok Day so that there is attention to the continued needs of the Korean American community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco shall recognize October 6, 2025, which is the 15th day of the eighth month of the Lunar Calendar, as Korean Chuseok Day; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco shall recognize September 27, 2025, as Chuseok Festival Day; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Seventh Annual Bay Area Korean Chuseok Festival held by the Korean Center, Inc. in San Francisco on September 27, 2025, is recognized as the City's official 2025 celebration of the cultural day; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco expresses its gratitude to the Korean Center, Inc. for its exceptional contributions to the Korean American community, fostering cultural understanding, and promoting the well-being of Korean immigrants and Korean Americans and their families across the Bay Area.