

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2455 (Haney) - Bruce Lee Day]

2 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2455, introduced by**
3 **Assembly Member Matt Haney, to annually designate May 17 as Bruce Lee Day.**
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5 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee, a San Francisco native, was a trailblazing Chinese American
6 martial artist, actor, and filmmaker who became an international icon of martial arts and
7 popular culture; and

8 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee’s innovative philosophies and dynamic performances helped
9 bridge Eastern and Western cultures and inspired millions around the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee was born at Chinese Hospital in San Francisco Chinatown; and

11 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee’s early family history is deeply connected to San Francisco’s
12 Chinatown; and

13 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee’s parents toured San Francisco as part of a performing arts
14 community that contributed to the cultural vitality of Chinatown during an era in which Asian
15 immigrants and Asian Americans faced persistent discrimination and exclusion; and

16 WHEREAS, Upon his return to San Francisco from Hong Kong at 18 years of age,
17 Bruce Lee spent his time in San Francisco’s Chinatown experiencing the realities of working
18 life and community networks within Chinatown, including taking entry-level work and engaging
19 with local social and cultural spaces; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1964, Bruce Lee appeared in San Francisco’s Chinatown at a public
21 performance venue and conducted a martial arts demonstration that became a significant
22 moment in the Bay Area’s martial arts history; and

23 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee helped break down racial barriers in the entertainment industry;
24 at a time when Asians in Hollywood were often confined to stereotypical roles, he achieved
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1 international fame on his own terms and became a source of pride for Asian American
2 communities; and

3 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee has been posthumously honored with numerous awards and
4 recognitions for his contributions, including a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1993,
5 recognition by Time magazine in 1999 as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th
6 century, and his 2015 induction into the California Hall of Fame by Governor Edmund G.
7 Brown Jr., solidifying his legacy as one of California’s great cultural icons; and

8 WHEREAS, His teaching and philosophy emphasized self-actualization, flow, constant
9 learning, and honest self-expression; and

10 WHEREAS, Bruce Lee’s life and legacy continue to inspire Californians of all
11 backgrounds, including students, educators, artists, athletes, and community leaders; and

12 WHEREAS, His story provides an opportunity for schools to teach about the history of
13 Chinese Americans and Asian Americans in California, the importance of representation, and
14 the value of perseverance, creativity, and community contribution; and

15 WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 2455 (AB 2455), introduced by
16 Assembly Member Matt Haney, will designate May 17 of each year as Bruce Lee Day and
17 encourage public schools to conduct exercises remembering the life of Bruce Lee and
18 recognizing his groundbreaking contributions; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby supports AB 2455
20 (Haney); and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
22 Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom and Assembly
23 Member Matt Haney.

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