

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill 1286 (Leno) - Increasing Law Enforcement
2 Transparency]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill 1286, authored by Senator Mark**
4 **Leno, improving government transparency and accountability by allowing the public to**
5 **access information on police misconduct and use of force.**

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7 WHEREAS, Police departments and law enforcement agencies across America have
8 for years, closely guarded information relating to misconduct, use of force, and stop data; and

9 WHEREAS, To increase accountability, improve public trust of law enforcement and
10 promote informed participation by the public, specific data must be accessible to the public
11 and available online in an open format; and

12 WHEREAS, Polling data shows that nearly 80% of Californians believe the public
13 should have access to the findings of police misconduct; and

14 WHEREAS, Many states including Texas, Kentucky, Utah, and several others, already
15 make police misconduct information available to the public when an allegation of misconduct
16 has been confirmed; and

17 WHEREAS, At least ten other states, including Florida, Ohio, and Washington, also
18 make these same records public regardless of whether an incident of misconduct has been
19 confirmed; and

20 WHEREAS, In February, California Senate Bill (SB) 1286, introduced by Senator Mark
21 Leno would improve transparency, accountability, and trust between law enforcement and the
22 public; and

23 WHEREAS, SB 1286 would allow greater public access to peace officer records
24 related to serious uses of force and sustained charges of misconduct; and

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1 WHEREAS, SB 1286 also gives residents who file complaints alleging misconduct
2 access to information related to those complaints; and

3 WHEREAS, SB 1286 would allow local governments to determine whether public
4 hearings and administrative appeals should be held on allegations of peace officer
5 misconduct; and

6 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors have already taken action locally
7 to create more transparency into law enforcement by unanimously passing the transparent
8 policing and data collection ordinance in September, 2015 and moving a ballot measure
9 forward to the voters requiring independent investigations into all officer involved shootings in
10 March, 2016; and

11 WHEREAS, SB 1286 aims to balance the needs of public disclosure and individual
12 privacy by allowing courts to withhold records if there is a risk or danger to an officer or
13 another person; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors commends Senator Mark Leno
15 for his leadership and efforts to create enhanced transparency into our law enforcement
16 agencies; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declares their
18 support for SB 1286, and urges the Senate and Assembly to pass this bill; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
20 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this resolution to Senator Mark Leno with a
21 request to take all actions necessary to achieve the objectives of SB 1286.

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