

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Todd Rufo, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development  
Jocelyn Kane, Executive Director, Entertainment Commission  
John Rahaim, Director, Planning Department  
Jonas Ionin, Director of Commission Affairs, Planning Commission

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services  
Committee, Board of Supervisors

DATE: September 21, 2016

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Wiener on September 13, 2016:

**File No. 160996**

**Resolution urging the establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group, and urging the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Entertainment Commission to convene the working group with a goal of protecting, preserving, and expanding LGBTQ nightlife, including drafting and enact a plan to create the Citywide LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy.**

If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

c: Ken Rich, Office of Economic and Workforce Development  
Lisa Pagan, Office of Economic and Workforce Development  
Crystal Stewart, Entertainment Commission  
Scott Sanchez, Planning Department  
Lisa Gibson, Planning Department  
AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department  
Aaron Starr, Planning Department  
Joy Navarrete, Planning Department  
Jeanie Poling, Planning Department

1 [Urging the Establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group]

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3 **Resolution urging the establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working**  
4 **Group, and urging the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the**  
5 **Entertainment Commission to convene the working group with a goal of protecting,**  
6 **preserving, and expanding LGBTQ nightlife, including drafting and enact a plan to**  
7 **create the Citywide LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy.**

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9 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to a large LGBTQ population and is the epicenter  
10 for LGBT culture; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a rich history of LGBTQ nightlife dating back many  
12 decades and still existing today, particularly in the South of Market, Castro, Mission, Polk  
13 Street, and Tenderloin, as well as other neighborhoods; and

14 WHEREAS, Bars and nightlife have historically provided a safe gathering space for  
15 members of the LGBTQ community, including spaces to find and build community; and

16 WHEREAS, Nightlife played an important part in the history of the LGBTQ Civil Rights  
17 Movement, with the Stonewall uprising at the Stonewall Inn in New York City in 1969; and

18 WHEREAS, LGBTQ nightlife businesses are a critical part of San Francisco's  
19 reputation as a world-class nightlife and entertainment destination and are an integral part of  
20 the City's nighttime economy; and

21 WHEREAS, LGBTQ nightlife businesses are important arts venues, social spaces, and  
22 places for political organization and charitable fundraising; and

23 WHEREAS, In 2016, the San Francisco City Economist released Nighttime Economy  
24 Economic Impact Report that showed the entertainment and nightlife industries employed

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1 over 60,000 people, generated \$6 billion in annual revenue, and contributed \$80 million in  
2 taxes to the General Fund; and

3           WHEREAS, Some longstanding LGBTQ nightlife businesses, particularly in the South of  
4 Market neighborhoods, are facing potential displacement that would negatively impacts San  
5 Francisco's nightlife cultural and economy, as well as the LGBTQ community as a whole; and

6           WHEREAS, In 2013, the Board of Supervisors passed the Western SOMA Plan, which  
7 rezoned the Western South of Market Area, where a large number of LGBTQ nightclubs are  
8 located; and

9           WHEREAS, The Western SOMA Plan authorized the goal of preserving LGBT assets  
10 in the area, including through the creation of an LGBTQ Cultural Heritage District; and

11           WHEREAS, In 2015, the Historic Preservation Commission adopted the LGBTQ  
12 Historic Context Statement, which provides background on the struggles and victories of the  
13 community; now, therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, That the Board calls for the creation of the LGBTQ Nightlife Working  
15 Group, consisting of members of the LGBTQ community, LGBTQ nightlife venue owners,  
16 operators, and employees, and nightlife advocates; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Mayor's Office of Economic and  
18 Workforce Development and Entertainment Commission to convene and work with the  
19 LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group to develop, promote, and expand programs to  
20 support LGBTQ nightlife and cultural heritage; and, be it

21           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the LGBT Nightlife and Culture Working Group, with  
22 support from the Planning Department, will develop and draft a plan to implement the Citywide  
23 LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy, and submit this plan to the Planning Commission and  
24 Board of Supervisors within 6 months of the adoption of this resolution.

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