

1 [Sexual Assault Survivor Day - October 6]

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3 **Resolution declaring October 6 as “Sexual Assault Survivor Day” annually in the City**
4 **and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, The US Department of Justice has reported that an American is sexually
7 assaulted every 98 seconds; and

8 WHEREAS, According to RAINN, 1 in 3 women in the U.S. will experience some form
9 of sexual violence in their lifetime, and one in every six American women have been victim to
10 rape or attempted rape; and

11 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 2 in 3 rapes go unreported, and thus are not included in
12 published data from the Justice Department; and

13 WHEREAS, The “Me Too” movement, spurred by activist Tarana Burke and
14 popularized on social media in October 2017 by the #MeToo hashtag, sparked a national
15 conversation about the prevalence of sexual assault in America; and

16 WHEREAS, The “Me Too” movement created space for sexual assault survivors to
17 step forward and name their abusers, in the hope of creating more accountability; and

18 WHEREAS, On September 27, 2018, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford testified before the
19 US Senate Judiciary Committee about her experience with teenage sexual assault, in
20 order for the Committee to determine her “credibility”; and

21 WHEREAS, Prior to her testimony, 1,600 men placed a print ad in the
22 September 26, 2018 New York Times, stating “We believe Anita Hill. We Also Believe
23 Christine Blasey Ford.”; reinforcing the importance of credibility and the role of male allies
24 in the national conversation about sexual assault through the hashtag #1600men; and

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1 WHEREAS, Sexual assault survivors that do not immediately report their
2 experiences cite embarrassment, the limited support networks for sexual assault, the
3 belief that the police cannot or will not help, or that their experience will be questioned
4 and not believed; and

5 WHEREAS, Public, national conversation about the prevalence of sexual assault
6 can reinforce the validity of survivors' claims, in turn increasing the likelihood of self-
7 reporting; and

8 WHEREAS, The reporting rate for sexual assault is believed to have increased
9 since the beginning of the "Me Too" movement, as the New York Police Department citing
10 a 32 percent increase in reported rape cases, and San Francisco Police Department
11 citing a 7 percent increase; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco is committed to supporting and believing sexual assault
13 survivors, through increased awareness, support networks, and evaluating reporting and
14 response infrastructure in the City's law enforcement system; and

15 WHEREAS, October is Domestic Violence Awareness month in San Francisco;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
18 does hereby declare the day of October 6 as annual "Sexual Assault Survivor Day" in the City
19 and County of San Francisco.