

1 [Urging Essential Businesses to Establish Vulnerable Population-Only Shopping Hours or
2 Other Reasonable Accommodations]

3 **Resolution urging essential businesses, including grocery stores, pharmacies, banks,**
4 **laundromats, and hardware stores, to establish dedicated shopping hours or other**
5 **reasonable accommodations for seniors and individuals with certain health conditions**
6 **or compromised immune systems to protect vulnerable San Franciscans from**
7 **increased risk of exposure to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).**

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9 WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel virus that has been
10 rapidly spreading worldwide; and

11 WHEREAS, The virus, which was originally detected in December 2019, has reached
12 pandemic proportions with more than 180,000 confirmed cases that have resulted in over
13 7,000 deaths around the world; and

14 WHEREAS, As of Monday March 16, 2020, the San Francisco Department of Public
15 Health has reported at least 40 confirmed cases in San Francisco, several of which resulted
16 from community transmission; and

17 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of Public Health has identified the
18 following vulnerable populations to be at greater risk of serious illness when exposed to the
19 virus: people who are 60 years old and older, people with certain health conditions such as
20 heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease and weakened immune systems, and
21 people who are pregnant or were pregnant in the last two weeks; and

22 WHEREAS, On Monday March 16, 2020, Mayor London Breed announced a public
23 health order requiring all San Francisco residents to shelter in place to slow the spread of
24 novel coronavirus in the community, and requiring all businesses to cease operations except
25 for those deemed essential businesses; and

1 WHEREAS, Essential businesses include those that are necessary to maintain the
2 health and safety of residents such as grocery markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, and
3 health care supply stores, among others; and

4 WHEREAS, Despite social distancing measures, older adults and those with chronic
5 health conditions who patronize essential businesses may still face elevated health risks by
6 encountering individuals or groups of people at these establishments who may inadvertently
7 expose them to contracting illness; and

8 WHEREAS, Many essential businesses around the United States and the world,
9 including large chains like Dollar General, Woolworths, and H-E-B have already established
10 dedicated shopping hours to protect vulnerable populations from COVID-19 exposure; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges essential businesses including
13 grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, health care supply stores, banks,
14 laundromats, and hardware stores to establish dedicated shopping hours for seniors and
15 individuals with certain health conditions or compromised immune systems to protect them
16 from heightened risk of exposure to COVID-19 while obtaining necessary services and
17 supplies; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges essential businesses to
19 establish other reasonable accommodations for vulnerable populations including increased
20 delivery opportunities, dedicated outdoor pickup stations, in-store assistance from store
21 personnel in gathering supplies, and any other measures to reduce the difficulty and risks
22 these populations might face while getting necessary services and supplies; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That any business that establishes dedicated shopping hours
24 or other reasonable accommodations for seniors and individuals with health conditions do so

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1 in compliance with local, State, and Federal public health orders and recommendations; and,
2 be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall notify the San Francisco
4 Chamber of Commerce, the San Francisco Council of District Merchant Associations, the
5 Golden Gate Business Association, the California Grocers Association, and any other local
6 business or merchants association of this petition; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the Mayor's Office to
8 include this petition on the City's centralized coronavirus response website to inform and
9 encourage local businesses to fulfill this appeal.

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