

1 [Black Business Month - August 2020]

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3 **Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to declare the month of**
4 **August as Black Business Month, and to recognize the 17th Annual National Black**
5 **Business Month beginning on August 1, 2020.**

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7 WHEREAS, August 1, 2020, marks the beginning of the 17th National Black Business
8 Month; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2004, motivated by his own experiences San Franciscan Frederick E.
10 Jordan Sr., P.E., a legendary civil engineer whose work has shaped the current skyline and
11 infrastructure; and John William Templeton, the creator of the California African-American
12 Freedom Trail, launched National Black Business Month in 2004 to help highlight Black
13 entrepreneurs and encourage people to support their businesses; and

14 WHEREAS, This observance highlights the important role of African-American
15 businesses to the Black community as well as to the overall national economy; and

16 WHEREAS, This celebration also generates awareness for the policy issues affecting
17 African-American entrepreneurship; and

18 WHEREAS, Data from the 2012 U.S. Census Bureau indicates that there are
19 approximately 2.6 million Black businesses in the United States, employing nearly one million
20 employees and generating annual revenues of roughly \$187 billion; and

21 WHEREAS, According to the San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce,
22 African American owned businesses in San Francisco had declined by nearly one quarter and
23 African American business receipts fell by 60.7 percent in 2016; and

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1 WHEREAS, The first city treasurer and school committee chair of the City and County
2 of San Francisco was a distinguished African-American mariner and merchant, Capt. William
3 Alexander Leidesdorff, whose estate was valued at \$1.4 million in 1854; and

4 WHEREAS, The 17th annual National Black Business Month has prioritized passage of
5 the Minority Business Resiliency Act, introduced July 2, 2020, in the U.S. Senate by
6 Representative Green (D-TX-9), and voter approval of Prop. 16 in November that was
7 introduced by California Assembly Members Weber, Gipson, and Santiago on January 18,
8 2019, and would repeal Prop. 209 and stop the loss of billions in procurement to minority and
9 women-owned businesses; and

10 WHEREAS, The 17th annual National Black Business Month is more important now
11 than ever as Black communities and Black Businesses here and across the country have
12 been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

13 WHEREAS, Only 1,000 of 144,000 new jobs in San Francisco County between 2005
14 and 2017 went to African-Americans, National Black Business Month has launched the
15 10,000 in 12 months initiative led by the new University of San Francisco School of
16 Management Dean Dr. Charles Moses to encourage recruitment, promotion, and retention by
17 local employers; and

18 WHEREAS, Blackbusinessmonth.com will broadcast 31 daily webcasts featuring
19 different industries during August to spread awareness of the impact of 3 million black
20 businesses which employ 1 million workers; and

21 WHEREAS, The address of San Francisco City Hall is in honor of preeminent black
22 entrepreneur Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett, a physician, psychologist, publisher and candidate for
23 governor in 1966; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors finds that the importance of
25 black business to San Francisco merits special recognition during the month of August and

1 encourages all San Franciscans to seek ways to shop, invest, contract with and raise the
2 visibility of our cherished businesses all year round and declares August 2020, as the 17th
3 annual National Black Business Month in San Francisco; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is committed to
5 implementing strategies for equitable economic development that strengthen the diverse
6 communities of our city; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, The City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco
8 Board of Supervisors will continue to dedicate resources for neighborhoods with higher
9 concentrations of Black residents, namely the long recognized African American communities
10 of Bayview - Hunters Point and the Western Addition and Fillmore with programs that support
11 Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the City; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit a copy of this
13 Resolution to Governor Newsom, the Office of Economic Workforce Development, Human
14 Rights Commission, Office of Racial Equity, Bay Area Organization of Black Owned
15 Businesses (BAOBAB) Directory, San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce,
16 Senator Green (D-TX-9), and California Assembly Members Weber, Gipson, and Santiago.

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