File	No.	201228

Committee Item	No.	
Board Item No.	30	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Prepared by: Lisa Lew Date: October 30, 2020 Prepared by: Date:		October 30, 2020	

1	[Urging the Naming of City Hall Press Room After Barbara Taylor]
2	
3	Resolution urging the naming of the second floor City Hall press room after legendary
4	San Francisco radio reporter Barbara Taylor.
5	
6	WHEREAS, As the former City Hall bureau chief for KCBS radio in San Francisco,
7	Barbara Taylor was a fixture in the City Hall newsroom for four decades, from 1975 until her
8	retirement in 2015; and
9	WHEREAS, Barbara Taylor was a thorough reporter who covered pivotal moments in
10	San Francisco, from the assassinations of Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George
11	Moscone to the immediate aftermath of the Loma Prieta earthquake, with grace and
12	compassion; and
13	WHEREAS, Barbara Taylor was on a first name basis with generations of City Hall
14	staff, including seven Mayors, dozens of Supervisors and other elected officials, department
15	staff and custodial staff; and
16	WHEREAS, A native San Diegan and graduate of San Diego State University, Barbara
17	Taylor's incisive and sympathetic reporting style was cultivated early on through social work,
18	where she learned to put subjects at ease with a warm and engaging manner; and
19	WHEREAS, Over the course of her four decades of work at City Hall covering politics,
20	elections, and all manner of City Hall happenings, Barbara Taylor became known as Dean of
21	the City Hall Press Corps and the "Grand Dame" of the City Hall Press Room – where even
22	her dog Tanner was admitted with a press pass bequeathed by the otherwise fastidious
23	Mayor Willie Brown; and
24	

1	WHEREAS, Barbara Taylor also co-authored a newspaper column for many years, and
2	served as the longtime on-camera host of "City Desk," a weekly televised roundtable of
3	reporters that provided behind-the-scenes insight into the happenings at City Hall; and
4	WHEREAS, In addition to being known as a compassionate and warm presence in and
5	around City Hall, she was also a tenacious reporter who did not take "no" or "too busy" for an
6	answer from anyone; and
7	WHEREAS, Simply put, Barbara Taylor was the best in the business, universally
8	respected by her journalist colleagues as professional, deeply human, and committed to
9	expanding access to information for all journalists and for the broader public; now, therefore,
10	be it
11	RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12	urges the City Hall Press Room be named the "Barbara Taylor Press Room" in recognition of
13	Barbara Taylor's decades of work to cover the ins and outs of San Francisco City Hall with
14	compassion, tenacity, professionalism, and a deep dedication to elevating the discourse,
15	humanity, and potential of our political culture and society.
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Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp or meeting date I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one): 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment). 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee. 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee. 4. Request for letter beginning: "Supervisor inquiries" 5. City Attorney Request. from Committee. 6. Call File No. 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion). 8. Substitute Legislation File No. 9. Reactivate File No. 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following: Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission Ethics Commission **Building Inspection Commission** Planning Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form. Sponsor(s): Peskin Subject: [Resolution to Urge Naming City Hall Press Room After Barbara Taylor] The text is listed: Resolution urging the second floor City Hall Press Room be named after legendary San Francisco radio reporter and unofficial Dean of the City Hall Press Corps Barbara Taylor.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: /s/ Aaron Peskin

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