

1 [Supporting Senate Bill 677 Regarding Human Trafficking]

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3 **Resolution supporting Senate Bill 677 regarding Human Trafficking, allowing courts to**
4 **seize any property used in the commission of human trafficking and adding civil**
5 **penalties.**
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7 WHEREAS, According to the US Department of State, approximately 600,000 to
8 800,000 victims are annually trafficked across international border worldwide; and
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10 WHEREAS, Between 14,500 and 17,500 victims are trafficked into the United States
11 each year and enslaved for purposes of sexual or labor exploitation; and,

12 WHEREAS, Research by the Human Rights Center at the University of California
13 found 57 forced labor operations between 1998 and 2003 throughout California, and these
14 operations – mostly in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Jose – involved
15 more than 500 victims from 18 countries; and,

16 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 677, authored by Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco),
17 would allow courts to seize any property, such as house or automobile, used in the
18 commission of human trafficking, and add civil penalties up to \$25,000; and,

19 WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed similar legislation last year, and
20 SB 677 would give the Governor another opportunity to provide much-needed resources in
21 the fight against human trafficking; and

22 WHEREAS, SB 677 was unanimously approved by the California Senate and is now
23 being considered by the Assembly; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
25 supports SB 677 and urges Governor Schwarzenegger to sign SB 677 if passed.