

1 [Supporting the California Nutrition Incentive Program Budget Coalition Request for Funding
2 of the California Nutrition Incentive Program, Including Programs Like the Statewide Market
3 Match]

4 **Resolution supporting the California Nutrition Incentive Program Budget Coalition**
5 **request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 funding of \$20,000,000 for the California**
6 **Nutrition Incentive Program at California Department of Food & Agriculture Office of**
7 **Farm to Fork, including programs like the statewide Market Match; and urging the**
8 **California Assembly and Senate budget committees to include in the FY2021-2022**
9 **Budget Act a one-time appropriation of \$20,000,000 for the California Nutrition**
10 **Incentive Program.**

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12 WHEREAS, Prior to the COVID19 pandemic, food security in San Francisco was a
13 pressing and widespread issue, with least one in four San Franciscans reported by the San
14 Francisco Department of Public Health to be at risk for food insecurity with subsequent
15 negative impacts on physical and mental health, on child cognitive development, and on
16 academic achievement; and

17 WHEREAS, The COVID19 pandemic has resulted in a rapid increase in food insecurity
18 in the United States, California, and across San Francisco, with many individuals and families
19 newly food insecure due to unprecedented loss of wages and loss of access to subsidized
20 congregate meals; and

21 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, food insecurity disproportionately affects individuals and
22 families of color; and

23 WHEREAS, Across San Francisco, existing nonprofits pivoted their programming and
24 new groups quickly mobilized to respond urgently to this rapid expansion of food insecurity by
25 creating expanded food pantries and grocery and meal deliveries; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco certified farmer’s markets have remained open throughout
2 the Stay-at-Home order, classified as Essential Businesses, and subject to clear requirements
3 and guidance for safe operating practices and expanded their value as; and

4 WHEREAS, Farmers markets have been and continue to be vital resources for fresh,
5 affordable, healthy food; and

6 WHEREAS, Two of the city’s largest farmers markets - the city-operated Alemany
7 Farmers Market and nonprofit-operated Heart of the City - are located on sites amidst the
8 highest food insecurity; and

9 WHEREAS, Market Match is a program funded by federal, state and private funds and
10 administered by the California Department of Food & Agriculture that incentivizes CalFresh
11 (known as SNAP [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program] on a federal level) recipients to
12 spend their benefits with farmers at farm-direct fresh fruits and vegetables by providing a
13 dollar-for-dollar match on CalFresh purchases, up to a daily maximum, at hundreds of
14 locations across 38 California counties; and

15 WHEREAS, Market Match increases access to fresh, healthy produce and food for
16 people with low incomes, while reinvesting state and federal dollars into California’s small and
17 mid-sized farms and rural communities; and

18 WHEREAS, Market Match is California’s largest nutrition incentive program, matching
19 federal nutrition assistance benefits, like CalFresh and WIC, at farmers markets and other
20 farm-direct sites; and

21 WHEREAS, In the past year, farmers markets offering Market Match have seen a
22 significant increase in participation, growing 77 percent statewide in the period of 2018 to
23 2020; and

24 WHEREAS, The Alemany Farmers Market in San Francisco’s District 9, widely known
25 as “the People’s Farmer’s Market” and the first farmers market established in California,

1 increased weekly Market Match participation by 635 percent in 2020 (from an average of 48
2 per week in 2019 to 353 per week in 2020) thanks to a supplemental grant; and

3 WHEREAS, Heart of the City Farmers Market, a farmer-operated nonprofit founded by
4 the Quakers' American Friends Service Committee in 1981 to address food security in San
5 Francisco's Tenderloin and other central city neighborhoods, now has one of the highest
6 Market Match participation rates in the country and provided over \$700,000 to more than
7 6,600 unduplicated program participants over the past twelve months; and

8 WHEREAS, The federal Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP),
9 brings grant dollars into the state, and the CNIP/Market Match program leverages federal
10 funds by matching nutrition assistance benefits with funds that can be spent by low-income
11 Californians to buy healthy, fresh food grown by California farmers; and

12 WHEREAS, Without additional state appropriations in the next fiscal year, the Market
13 Match program will be unable to continue beyond 2022; and

14 WHEREAS, The GusNIP competitive grant program application period opens in FY21,
15 and it requires a 100% match of state, local or private funding, and an investment now of \$20
16 million of state funds into CNIP, and an extension to encumber the funds, would allow the
17 program to meet the non-federal match and bring significant federal funds into the state; and

18 WHEREAS, A coalition led by the nonprofit Ecology Center, the California Market
19 Match Consortium, and the more than 80 hunger, sustainable agriculture, school district, food
20 policy councils, and local food systems organizations - including San Francisco-based
21 nonprofit organizations A Better Course, CUESA, Heart of the City Farmers Market, and the
22 San Francisco-Marín Food Bank - have come together to advocate for state funding to
23 continue the Market Match program; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports the California Nutrition Incentive
25 Program Budget Coalition's request for FY21 funding of \$20 million for the California Nutrition

1 Incentive Program (CNIP) at California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) Office of
2 Farm to Fork, including programs like the statewide Market Match; and

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California
4 Assembly and Senate budget committees to include in the FY21 Budget Act a one-time
5 appropriation of \$20 million for the California Nutrition Incentive Program; and

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
7 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this resolution to California Governor Gavin
8 Newsom, Senator Scott Wiener, and Assemblymembers Phil Ting and David Chiu with a
9 request to take all action necessary to achieve the objectives of this Resolution.

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