

1 [Calling for Sustained Ceasefire in Gaza, Humanitarian Aid, Release of Hostages, and  
2 Condemning Antisemitic, Anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic Rhetoric and Attacks]

3 **Resolution calling for a sustained ceasefire in Gaza, humanitarian aid, release of**  
4 **hostages, and condemning antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic**  
5 **rhetoric and attacks.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, All human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians is a violation  
8 of international humanitarian law; and

9 WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas, a U.S. Department of State-designated  
10 foreign terrorist organization, launched from Gaza into Israel the deadliest, most horrific  
11 attack on Jewish people since the Holocaust of World War II, described as “systematic  
12 and unprecedented in its cruelty,” claiming the lives of approximately 1,200 people,  
13 most of them civilians, and, according to a two-month investigation by the *New York*  
14 *Times*, “showing a pattern of rape, mutilation and extreme brutality against women,” and  
15 “establishing that the attacks against women were not isolated events but part of a  
16 broader pattern of gender-based violence”; and

17 WHEREAS, since the October 7 attack, the United States government has urged  
18 Israel to do more to limit the human toll in Gaza, with U.S. Secretary of State Anthony  
19 Blinken expressing concern about “a gap” between Israel’s stated “intent to protect  
20 civilians and the actual results that we’re seeing on the ground” and President Biden  
21 describing seemingly “indiscriminate bombing” in Gaza; and

22 WHEREAS, the toll of the war on the civilian population in Gaza has been and  
23 continues to be horrific, with tens of thousands dead and more than 2 million Gazans  
24 displaced from their homes; and

25 WHEREAS, Between October 7, 2023 and December 4, 2023 January 7, 2024,

1 armed violence has claimed the lives of at least 15,000 22,700 Palestinians and over  
2 1,200 Israelis, and wounded thousands more; and

3 WHEREAS, according to a New York Times report as of January 5, 2024,  
4 “almost all of Gaza’s 2.3 million residents have been driven from their homes by Israel’s  
5 nearly three months of airstrikes and evacuation orders” ~~An estimated 1,700,000~~  
6 ~~Palestinians have been displaced from Gaza since October 7, 2023;~~ and

7 WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk in Gaza without  
8 a sustained ceasefire and without massive humanitarian relief; and

9 WHEREAS, The lives of more than 137 129 remaining Israeli hostages in Gaza  
10 are also at imminent risk; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Government currently provides substantial  
12 military funding to Israel; and

13 WHEREAS, On October 26, 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly  
14 adopted a resolution calling for an “immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian  
15 truce” between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and various other  
16 international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, A growing number of cities around the country have called for a  
19 ceasefire;

20 WHEREAS, A growing number of labor unions have recently called for a  
21 ceasefire, including local unions in San Francisco that represent City workers, some of  
22 whom are reporting higher instances of anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia,  
23 antisemitism, and xenophobia as they perform their job duties; and

24 WHEREAS, In a November 18, 2023 Washington Post op-ed, President Joe  
25 Biden wrote, “If Hamas cared at all for Palestinian lives, it would release all the

1 hostages, give up arms and surrender the leaders and those responsible for Oct. 7”;

2 and

3 WHEREAS, On November 21, 2023, the Biden Administration announced an  
4 agreement to a four-day pause in hostilities, the release of at least 50 Israeli hostages,  
5 and the release of 150 Palestinian prisoners; and

6 WHEREAS, On November 24, 2023, the four-day pause in hostilities began, and  
7 was extended two days on November 28, 2023; and

8 WHEREAS, On November 27, 2023, the UN Secretary General issued a  
9 statement urging that “[t]he dialogue that led to the agreement must continue, resulting  
10 in a full humanitarian ceasefire, for the benefit of the people of Gaza, Israel and the  
11 wider region;” and

12 WHEREAS, The temporary pause ended on December 1, 2023, and was  
13 immediately followed by aerial bombardment and rocket fire; and

14 WHEREAS, Many San Franciscans have deep connections to Israel, Gaza, and  
15 the region, including family, friends, and loved ones there; and

16 WHEREAS, Following the brutal attack by Hamas militants on Israelis on  
17 October 7, 2023, San Francisco Israelis, Jews and others have experienced, and  
18 continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising  
19 antisemitism in our nation and our city; and

20 WHEREAS, Israel’s sustained and devastating military assault on Gaza since  
21 October 7th has caused San Francisco Palestinians, Muslims and others to experience,  
22 and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising anti-  
23 Palestinian racism and Islamophobia in our nation and our city; and

24 WHEREAS, Antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, anti-Israeli, Islamophobic, and  
25 xenophobic rhetoric and attacks are on the rise across the nation and in San Francisco;

1 now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls for Hamas to  
3 step down in the interest of peace, a sustained ceasefire, provision of life-saving  
4 humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the  
6 Biden Administration and Congress to call for Hamas to step down in the interest of  
7 peace, a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands in  
9 support of a two-state solution, envisioning a pair of territorially distinct states — one for  
10 the State of Israel, as an ancestral Jewish homeland; and one for an autonomously  
11 governed Palestine, as an ancestral Palestinian homeland — affirming the right of  
12 existence, self-determination, and self-defense to both states; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemns  
14 antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and all xenophobic rhetoric and attacks.