Resolution supporting SB 675, the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Education and Dropout Prevention Act.

WHEREAS, California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg recently introduced SB 675; and

WHEREAS, SB 675 will invest $5 Billion in green job training in schools, community colleges, and more; and

WHEREAS, The proposed legislation will provide facilities and equipment to high schools, community colleges, and businesses in order to prepare students and trainees for green careers, and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the advocacy of groups like the Green Jobs Working Groups, a cross-sector alliance of labor, social justice, and environmental organizations including the California Apollo Alliance, Ella Baker Center, California Labor Federation, The Sierra Club, The National Resource Defense Council and the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, 20% of the $5 Billion investment for this program will benefit underrepresented and disadvantaged communities in California; and

WHEREAS, California suffers from too many high school dropouts, too little meaningful career technical education at the middle and high school levels, and lacks skilled workforce to fuel the emerging economy of clean technology and renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, California must lead the world in addressing both the problems of its youth and the opportunities created by the new green economy; and
WHEREAS, According to SB 675, California's international leadership in renewable energy, energy conservation, clean technology, and climate change policy creates significant, but dramatically underfunded, opportunities to provide strategic capital investments in energy conservation, clean technologies and renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, These opportunities also include projects that contribute directly to workforce development and educational opportunities for high school pupils, young workers, community college students and graduates, youth who participate in community or state service organizations, college and university students and graduates, apprenticeship programs for building and construction trades and other technical and vocational careers, and training programs for unemployed, underemployed, or displaced workers and high school dropouts; and

WHEREAS, SB 375 ensures that California has an opportunity to combine the education and training of both its future college-education workforce, the underemployment of recent high school graduates, and its highly skilled technical workforce with its effort to combat high school dropouts and the retraining of workers who have been displaced by the loss of high-wage jobs in California; and

WHEREAS, Clean technology and renewable energy jobs (green collar jobs) can provide undeserved communities with a pathway out of poverty, a new and inspiring focus for educational institutions and nonprofit organizations, and significant statewide economic and environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS, Investments in renewable energy, energy conservation, clean technologies, climate change mitigation, and investments that develop the workforce for these industries will provide multiple benefits to California by: helping to achieve the state's climate change goals, creating employment opportunities for Californians that would otherwise not be fully realized, creating opportunities for new businesses, and expanding and retrofitting
existing businesses, expanding the state’s utilization of renewable energy, and contributing to
the growth of clean technology businesses in California; and

WHEREAS, SB 675 establishes a special fund in the state treasury, available for
appropriation by the Legislature, to invest in career technical education that delivers the skills
and knowledge necessary for successful employment in clean technology, renewable energy
or energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, Funds will come from the Energy Commission’s Public Interest Energy
Research Fund and be used to secure an unspecified amount in bonds to finance a
competitive grant program; and

WHEREAS, This bill will also create the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job
Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention Council which shall be
comprised of nine members from a variety of environmental, educational, labor and workforce
development backgrounds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
urge the California State Senate to pass SB 675 to advance the State of California’s green
future; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors send a copy of this
resolution to the California State Senate.
Resolution supporting Senate Bill 675, the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Education and Dropout Prevention Act.

March 31, 2009 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell, Mirkarimi

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 31, 2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Date Approved: 4/8/09

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom