[Supporting the Secure Our Smartphone Initiative]

Resolution supporting the Secure Our Smartphones Initiative, the objective of which is to demand that smartphone manufacturers implement technological solutions to remove the economic incentives that support and drive the theft and re-sale of smartphone devices.

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors finds public safety to be of paramount concern and an essential ingredient for any community to thrive; and

WHEREAS, We live in an era in which technology in all of its forms, especially mobile communications devices such as cellphones and smartphones, has become an integral part of the daily life of many individuals living in the City and County of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, More than 50% of the robberies in 2013 in San Francisco involved the theft of a mobile communications device, up from 36% in 2012; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 robberies across the United States involves the theft of a mobile communications device, making it the #1 property crime in the country; and

WHEREAS, The sale of cellphones in the U.S. earned manufacturers an estimated $69 billion dollars in 2012 alone and smartphone manufacturers make an estimated $30 billion dollars due to lost or stolen devices, illuminating the reality that companies profit immensely from this crime wave by avoiding technological fixes that would render stolen devices inoperable and therefore unattractive to steal and re-sell; and

WHEREAS, Manufacturers must be held accountable and should be required to demonstrate corporate responsibility by creating and implementing the most effective technological protections that will safeguard consumers in order to end this rampant criminal activity; and
WHEREAS, the San Francisco District Attorney co-chairs a global initiative called Secure Our Smartphones, that aims to pressure smartphone manufacturers to implement technological solutions that will remove the economic value of stolen smartphones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopts this resolution in support of the Secure Our Smartphones Initiative; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors will continue to engage the community, law enforcement, and state and federal legislators in order to educate the public about the dangers presented by this criminal epidemic, and the need for smartphone manufacturers to implement effective technological solutions that will safeguard customers and end the victimization of millions of Americans nationwide.
Resolution supporting the Secure Our Smartphones Initiative, the objective of which is to demand that smartphone manufacturers implement technological solutions to remove the economic incentives that support and drive the theft and re-sale of smartphone devices.

November 26, 2013 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 11/26/2013 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board