Resolution celebrating 2023 as Year of the Rabbit and recognizing January 22, 2023, as the start of Lunar New Year 4721 in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, 2023 marks Lunar year 4721, the Year of the Rabbit, which begins on Saturday, January 22, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Celebrations for the Lunar New Year begin with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and end on the full moon 15 days later; and

WHEREAS, The first Chinese New Year Parade took place in San Francisco's Chinatown in 1885 with a 15-day celebration and a block-long golden dragon preceded by the red pearl of potentiality; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to celebrate Chinatown and draw visitors to Chinese-owned businesses, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce transformed the Chinese New Year celebration into a Street Carnival at Portsmouth Square in 1953; and

WHEREAS, To further its efforts to promote Chinatown, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce launched the first Miss Chinatown, U.S.A. beauty pageant in 1958 as part of the New Year festivities; and

WHEREAS, The Chinese New Year parade draws larger crowds each year with increased marching units and floats, and is, to date, the largest parade celebrating Chinese New Year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Chinese New Year in San Francisco has become a culturally significant civic pride event for our city; and

WHEREAS, The annual Chinese New Year parade and nearly month-long festivities that now include a Flower Market Fair, Choy Sun Doe, Basketball Jamboree, and a
Chinatown YMCA Run, in addition to the Community Street Fair, have provided an economic boost to our local economy beyond Chinatown; and

WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year may be known as Chinese New Year and the Spring Festival, but it is also celebrated as Solnal in Korean communities, with the Tet Festival by the Vietnamese, and as Losar in Tibet; and

WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year is a significant holiday for Asian families to gather together, honor their ancestors, welcome the New Year with hopes of prosperity and good health, and celebrate traditions and traditional foods; and

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Lunar New Year themes of family, health and prosperity, renewal, and togetherness are especially important and families have found new ways to celebrate in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities; and

WHEREAS, The rabbit is the luckiest of the 12 Chinese zodiac, and represent the ability to navigate life quickly and thoughtfully while allowing for moments of reflection, rest and renewal; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco bids farewell to 2022, Year of the Tiger, and commits to celebrate Asian families and Lunar New Year Festivities in accordance with the City's public health orders; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco wishes all families good luck, prosperity, and continued good health in the Year of the Rabbit; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco celebrates 2023 as the Year of the Rabbit and recognizes January 22, 2023, as the start of Lunar New Year 4721.
Resolution celebrating 2023 as Year of the Rabbit and recognizing January 22, 2023, as the start of Lunar New Year 4721 in the City and County of San Francisco.

January 24, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 1/24/2023 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 her 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

02/03/2023