[Urging Essential Businesses to Establish Vulnerable Population-Only Shopping Hours or Other Reasonable Accommodations]

Resolution urging essential businesses including grocery stores, pharmacies, banks, laundromats, and hardware stores to establish dedicated shopping hours or other reasonable accommodations for seniors and individuals with certain health conditions or compromised immune systems to protect vulnerable San Franciscans from increased risk of exposure to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel virus that has been rapidly spreading worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The virus, which was originally detected in December 2019, has reached pandemic proportions with more than 180,000 confirmed cases that have resulted in over 7,000 deaths around the world; and

WHEREAS, As of Monday March 16, 2020, the San Francisco Department of Public Health has reported at least 40 confirmed cases in San Francisco, several of which resulted from community transmission; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of Public Health has identified the following vulnerable populations to be at greater risk of serious illness when exposed to the virus: people who are 60 years old and older, people with certain health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease and weakened immune systems, and people who are pregnant or were pregnant in the last two weeks; and

WHEREAS, On Monday March 16, 2020, Mayor London Breed announced a public health order requiring all San Francisco residents to shelter in place to slow the spread of novel coronavirus in the community, and requiring all businesses to cease operations except for those deemed essential businesses; and
WHEREAS, Essential businesses include those that are necessary to maintain the health and safety of residents such as grocery markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, and health care supply stores, among others; and

WHEREAS, Despite social distancing measures, older adults and those with chronic health conditions who patronize essential businesses may still face elevated health risks by encountering individuals or groups of people at these establishments who may inadvertently expose them to contracting illness; and

WHEREAS, Many essential businesses around the United States and the world, including large chains like Dollar General, Woolworths, and H-E-B have already established dedicated shopping hours to protect vulnerable populations from COVID-19 exposure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges essential businesses including grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, health care supply stores, banks, laundromats, and hardware stores to establish dedicated shopping hours for seniors and individuals with certain health conditions or compromised immune systems to protect them from heightened risk of exposure to COVID-19 while obtaining necessary services and supplies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges essential businesses to establish other reasonable accommodations for vulnerable populations including increased delivery opportunities, dedicated outdoor pickup stations, in-store assistance from store personnel in gathering supplies, and any other measures to reduce the difficulty and risks these populations might face while getting necessary services and supplies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That any business that establishes dedicated shopping hours or other reasonable accommodations for seniors and individuals with health conditions do so
in compliance with local, State, and Federal public health orders and recommendations; and,
be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall notify the San Francisco
Chamber of Commerce, the San Francisco Council of District Merchant Associations, the
Golden Gate Business Association, the California Grocers Association, and any other local
business or merchants association of this petition; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the Mayor's Office to
include this petition on the City's centralized coronavirus response website to inform and
encourage local businesses to fulfill this appeal.
Resolution urging essential businesses, including grocery stores, pharmacies, banks, laundromats, and hardware stores, to establish dedicated shopping hours or other reasonable accommodations for seniors and individuals with certain health conditions or compromised immune systems to protect vulnerable San Franciscans from increased risk of exposure to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

March 24, 2020 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/24/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

________________________________________
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

04/03/2020

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.

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Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

04/03/2020