Resolution celebrating early care educators and families of young children during "The Week of the Young Child," April 5 through April 11, 2025, in the City and County of San Francisco; and reaffirming the City's commitment to establishing a universal, inclusive early care and education system that expands access, reduces barriers, addresses affordability, and leverages strategic partnerships.

[The Week of the Young Child in San Francisco - April 5 through April 11, 2025]

WHEREAS, The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration during the month of April sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association, to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families; and to promote the importance of early care and education as a foundation for the intellectual, emotional, social-emotional, and physical development of young children; and

WHEREAS, Children's brains develop more during the first five years of their life than at any other time; and

WHEREAS, High quality early care and education is dependent on well-supported early care educators who receive fair wages, health care and paid leave benefits, work environments that support quality work, and professional development resources; and

WHEREAS, Young children need developmentally appropriate, readily available early care and education settings, but access is currently uneven and dependent on the ability to pay parent fees or access subsidies; and

WHEREAS, Working families rely on an expansion of affordable, high-quality early care and education especially given the shortage of affordable infant and toddler child care slots; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a legacy as a champion in supporting children and families and celebrates diversity while recognizing the inequities along race and class lines; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has made great strides in advancing the support system for early childhood education through the Early Care and Education for All Initiative, made possible by the historic passage of Proposition C (also known as "Baby C") in 2018 that created a dedicated source of local funding to support the wages of early care educators and to expand quality early learning child care spaces for children ages 0-5; and

WHEREAS, Additional funding is being released to support robust educator professional development pathways; stipends for early educator professional development; tuition assistance for early educator degree attainment; and facility investments needed to build a comprehensive early care and education system for children from birth to five; and

WHEREAS, The SEQUAL (Supportive Environmental Quality Underlying Adult Learning) survey of early educators and administrators has been conducted San Franciscowide to refine the investments to improve the quality of early care educators' work conditions and further support the quality of service delivered; and

WHEREAS, In 2022, San Francisco established the Department of Early Childhood (DEC) to center the needs of the city's youngest children and their families through a two-generational approach in supporting programs that are critical in providing nurturing care and education for their lives now; and striving to achieve universal quality early care and education for all families to best prepare children for Kindergarten and lifetime success; and

WHEREAS, Since 2022, DEC developed initiatives that focus on the factors proven to contribute to kindergarten readiness including: 1) Financial support for families to help make high-quality early care and education accessible to all San Franciscans; 2) Early educator

compensation, professional development, and quality supports that value our teaching workforce and equip them to deliver high-quality learning experiences for children; and

WHEREAS, Since 2018, the waitlist for subsidized child care decreased by 73%, despite increased eligibility – an achievement that reflects strategic investments and system improvements; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco stands out nationally as one of the few major cities where kindergarten readiness rates improved across nearly all demographics, surpassing prepandemic levels; and

WHEREAS, In 2024, the City expanded eligibility for financial support for early learning, including families earning up to 150% of the Area Median Income (AMI) or approximately \$224,800 for a family of four, an increase from the current cap of 110% AMI, for the next two years; and

WHEREAS, DEC and the Child Care Planning and Advisory Council (CPAC) share a bold vision of universal access to inclusive, high-quality child care – working collaboratively to address persistent barriers, expand program capacity, and support children with special needs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco declares the week of April 5 through April 11, 2025, "The Week of the Young Child" and encourages celebrations throughout the month of April; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors and the City and County of San Francisco commit to reducing barriers to access, expanding early learning programs' capacity, enhancing inclusive practices to ensure all children can thrive - especially those in historically marginalized communities, such as Black, Indigenous, People of Color, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors and the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the financial challenges faced by families in accessing child care and will deepen partnerships across sectors - including government, community organizations, and businesses to strengthen a coordinated, equitable early care system that prioritizes continuous quality improvement and shared accountability; including strategies that address affordability concerns, explore subsidy options, and expand financial support mechanisms; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors and the City and County of San Francisco extend their utmost appreciation to early care educators for their outstanding work on behalf of young children and their families; and support efforts to ensure their just compensation, benefits, and career development opportunities, recognizing their critical role in shaping the futures of San Francisco's youngest residents; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors and the City and County of San Francisco affirms its support to the children, families, service providers, and the early care and education workforce of San Francisco and commits to visiting sites to see firsthand the positive impact of these programs on families and young children; and to listen to providers about ongoing needs to stabilize and improve programs, access, and workforce development.



City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

250336

Date Passed: April 08, 2025

Resolution celebrating early care educators and families of young children during "The Week of the Young Child," April 5 through April 11, 2025, in the City and County of San Francisco; and reaffirming the City's commitment to establishing a universal, inclusive early care and education system that expands access, reduces barriers, addresses affordability, and leverages strategic partnerships.

April 08, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar,

Sherrill and Walton Excused: 1 - Sauter

File No. 250336

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/8/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Daniel Lurie Mayor

04/18/2025

Date Approved

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.

Clerk of the Board

04/18/2025

Date