[Recognizing the Commencement of Ramadan, the Muslim Holy and Blessed Month]

Resolution recognizing the commencement of Ramadan, the Muslim Holy and Blessed month of fasting and renewal, and expressing respect for the Muslim communities in the City and County of San Francisco and the United States.

WHEREAS, Islam is the world’s second-largest and fastest growing religion with approximately 1,900,000,000 Muslims worldwide making up 26% of the world’s population; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately one million Muslim Americans across the state of California, contributing to its vibrant economy, social fabric, and multicultural traditions; and

WHEREAS, The Bay Area has one of the highest concentrations of Muslims in the nation with approximately 250,000 residents from ethnically diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Muslim community has continued to grow and thrive since the establishment of the Islamic Center of San Francisco in 1959, the first mosque located in Bernal Heights which continues to serve as a community and religious hub for Muslims; and

WHEREAS, There are five major mosques in San Francisco, including three in the Tenderloin, a neighborhood with a thriving Muslim community (there are approximately 106 mosques total in the Bay Area); and

WHEREAS, San Francisco Muslims have contributed to critical movements in the City that have advanced racial equity, educational equity, criminal justice reforms, environmental justice, public safety, and increased interfaith engagement; and
WHEREAS, Muslim community organizers, cultural and religious organizations, and
Small Business Owners and Grocers, the heart and foundation of San Francisco, have
enriched San Francisco’s welcoming, tolerant, and diverse community; and
WHEREAS, Muslims contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people
from all faiths in the United States and around the world by providing medical assistance,
family services, scholastic supplies, before- and after-school programs, feeding the hungry,
and providing recuperation efforts following natural disasters; and
WHEREAS, Muslim Public Officials and Leaders, City Departments, and allies,
including Department of Public Health, UCSF’s EATSF, Human Rights Commission, Small
Business Commission, COVID Command Center, Chinatown Community Development
Center, and Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation have been helping many
Muslim families experiencing hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing over
$60,000 of food vouchers, Personal Protective Equipment, language translation services,
health webinars, testing and vaccination opportunities, public health and safety measures for
our mosques, and supportive housing; and
WHEREAS, One of the Bay Area’s Muslim-led organizations Support Life Foundation,
successfully mobilized one of the largest efforts in the Bay Area targeting Food Security for at-risk communities during the pandemic; in San Francisco alone, they provided 11.8 tons of
food since August 2020; and
WHEREAS, This Ramadan, most Muslims around the world are making every effort to
remain safe during the ongoing pandemic and following guidelines advised by local, regional,
State, and national public health or government authorities; and
WHEREAS, Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim calendar year, is a time of
sacrifice, introspection, spiritual renewal, and service for Muslims worldwide; and
WHEREAS, The observance of the Muslim Holy and Blessed month of Ramadan commences at dusk on April 12, 2021, and continues for one lunar month, from sunrise to sunset each day; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors acknowledges the onset of Ramadan and expresses its deepest respect to Muslims in San Francisco and throughout the world on this significant occasion; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors affirms the commitment to ensuring that the City values remain welcoming and compassionate and that it pursues policies that respect the dignity and rights of all working people, regardless of race, religion, immigration status or country of origin; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors must always recognize and celebrate how successive waves of immigrants and refugees have helped build and enrich our communities, and make nations and communities strong; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors categorically reject policies that criminalize immigrants, refuse refugees fleeing violence and persecution, discriminate against people of Muslim faith and from predominantly Muslim countries, and deny them of their human and civil rights; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors urges the people of San Francisco to join in celebrating the Holy and Blessed month of Ramadan and taking this month to honor the Muslim community and reflect on the health and wellbeing of family, friends, and fellow citizens.
Resolution recognizing the commencement of Ramadan, the Muslim Holy and Blessed month of fasting and renewal, and expressing respect for the Muslim communities in the City and County of San Francisco and the United States.

April 20, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/20/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.