Resolution commending Susan Solomon on the occasion of her retirement from the United Educators of San Francisco, and declaring June 16, 2021, as Susan Solomon Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Susan Solomon is a San Francisco native, lifelong educator, passionate activist, dedicated neighbor, and tireless leader who cares deeply for her community; and

WHEREAS, Susan was born in San Francisco on December 7, 1954, to Herschel and Josephine "Jo" Solomon, the second in what would be a family of four daughters; and

WHEREAS, Susan credits her parents for instilling a value of political engagement and activism in her at a young age, in particular the experience of her father losing his job as a public school teacher due to his refusal to sign the loyalty oath during the McCarthy era; and

WHEREAS, The Solomon family moved often, including a short stint in the recently-developed Saint Francis Square in the Western Addition, where Susan would later settle with her own family; and

WHEREAS, Due to the frequent moves, she attended numerous public schools in San Francisco and Daly City, ultimately graduating from Lowell High School with the class of 1972; and

WHEREAS, Susan went on to attend UC Berkeley, and was among the first students to graduate with a degree in genetics, a new major at the time; while she had initially planned to go into medicine, the classes that brought her the most joy during her undergraduate days revolved around art and education, two themes that would prove central to her career; and
WHEREAS, Susan began her career working in a daycare before earning her M.A. in Early Childhood Education from the Bank Street College of Education, and worked in daycares and preschools in Manhattan; and

WHEREAS, In 1984, Susan settled in St. Francis Square with her husband Fred, where she still lives today as a committed, caring community member, and over 35 years as a St. Francis Square cooperator, serving on the Board of Directors and Building & Grounds Committee at various times; and

WHEREAS, Both Susan and Fred took classroom teaching positions with low-income preschoolers at the Head Start program, and immediately began organizing parents and fellow teachers to improve conditions by forming a union; and

WHEREAS, Susan and Fred raised their children to have a dedication to social justice and a deep love of learning; before they could walk, Herschel and Naomi were carried and pushed in strollers on picket lines and marches, and learned chants and protest songs alongside nursery rhymes and bedtime stories; and

WHEREAS, Susan's involvement with United Educators of San Francisco (UESF) began in 2001 while teaching kindergarten at John Swett, and from 2001-2003 she was an Executive Board member, representing Elementary Division teachers; in 2003, she was elected UESF Secretary, a role she held until she was elected Executive Vice President in 2012; and

WHEREAS, During her time as Executive Vice President, Susan worked tirelessly to unionize Creative Arts Charter School, marking a major victory for charter school educators seeking fair wages, representation, and benefits; and

WHEREAS, Susan’s career highlights are extensive, including serving on the California Federation of Teachers' Racial Justice Task Force, which resulted in a report entitled,
"Reclaiming the Promise of Racial Equity for Black Males in California;" this report was adopted by unanimous vote at the subsequent CFT Convention; and

WHEREAS, Just before Susan took office as President of UESF in 2018, Fred was diagnosed with late-stage terminal cancer, and he passed away later that year; they were married for 41 years and the loss was, and remains, immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, According to family and friends, Susan has attributed much of her growth and development as a labor leader to Fred's guidance, partnership, and support; and

WHEREAS, Over the past year, Susan's powerful leadership has guided UESF through this pandemic, as she has worked unceasingly to prioritize the health and safety of San Francisco's educators, students, school workers, and families; and

WHEREAS, It is without question that Susan's dedication to educating the next generation with passion, care, art, and a deep sense of justice will continue to extend far beyond her time with her beautiful grandchild; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco commends Susan Solomon on her incredible legacy and celebrates her retirement; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco declares June 16, 2021, as Susan Solomon Day in the City and County of San Francisco.
Resolution commending Susan Solomon on the occasion of her retirement from the United Educators of San Francisco, and declaring June 16, 2021, as Susan Solomon Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

June 15, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton
Excused: 1 - Melgar

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 6/15/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

__________________________
Date

London N. Breed
Mayor

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.

__________________________
Date

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board