9

10 11

12 13

15

16

14

17

18

19 20

2122

2324

25

[Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 925 (Wiener) - Combating Street Fencing of Stolen Goods]

Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 925 introduced by California State Senator Scott Wiener to combat the fencing of stolen merchandise on San Francisco streets.

WHEREAS, San Francisco neighborhoods like the Mission have long celebrated a rich street vending culture that has contributed to the vibrancy of the city; and

WHEREAS, The City's sidewalk vending program and the economic opportunities it brings for permitted street vendors has been threatened by the proliferation of fencing, the sale of stolen goods on our streets; and

WHEREAS, Individuals fencing stolen goods have threatened, extorted and/or physically assaulted frontline SF Public Works employees, community members and permitted sidewalk vendors; and

WHEREAS, Fencers have also blocked sidewalks, making passage to public transit, small businesses, and neighborhoods for pedestrians unsafe and inaccessible; and

WHEREAS, Prior to 2018, the San Francisco Police Department issued peddler permits for authorized street vendors and enforced street vending regulations; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, California decriminalized sidewalk vending with the passage of Senate Bill No. 946, the "Safe Sidewalk Vending Act," effectively barring law enforcement from enforcing violations related to street vending, but never imagined that criminal operations would take advantage of this law to sell stolen goods on the sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, This legal change required San Francisco to move away from police enforcement of street vending to exclusively rely on administrative enforcement - even of

fencing - by SF Public Works which became untenable as conditions on the streets deteriorated under the influx of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, Public Works Order No. 208803 stated that Mission Police Station had "experienced elevated numbers of calls for service associated with the Mission Street Corridor that can be attributed in part to illegal purchasing and vending (or "fencing") of stolen property, particularly around the intersections of 24th and Mission Streets and 16th and Mission Streets;" and

WHEREAS, "...on nearly a daily basis, police officers have observed the fencing of suspected stolen property on or about the Mission Street Corridor;" and

WHEREAS, Overwhelming fencing activity led the City to issue a moratorium on sidewalk sales along Mission Street between 14th and Cesar Chavez Streets, including sales by permitted street vendors, undermining the intent of SB 946; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 925, would allow San Francisco to create permitting requirements to regulate the sale of items commonly obtained through retail theft and impose criminal penalties for those that engage in this practice; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 925, would allow law enforcement officers to address fencing activities without the presence of SF Public Works employees; and

WHEREAS, SF Public Works, which took over issuing street vendor permits in 2022, would continue to administer a low-cost, accessible sidewalk vending program that preserves economic opportunities for authorized sidewalk vendors; and

WHEREAS, The passage of Senate Bill No. 925 would bring greater safety, order and opportunities for commercial corridors to flourish; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby expresses its strong support for Senate Bill No. 925 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor to support Senate Bill No. 925; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of the State Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member Matt Haney, Assembly Member Phil Ting to signify the Board's endorsement and encouragement for the swift passage and implementation of this critical legislation.



City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

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

Resolution

File Number:

240653

Date Passed: June 11, 2024

Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 925 introduced by California State Senator Scott Wiener to combat the fencing of stolen merchandise on San Francisco streets.

June 11, 2024 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 240653

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 6/11/2024 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor

6/21/2024

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 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