Resolution urging the United States Congress to pass the Real Economic Support that Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or Restaurants Act, establishing the $120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund to support the struggling restaurant industry.

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco, State of California, and United States of America have declared local, state, and national emergencies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Health Officer of San Francisco issued an order directing residents to stay home, except to provide or receive essential services; and

WHEREAS, Public health precautions required to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and minimize loss of life are resulting in severe economic impacts for our City, State, and Country, with the restaurant industry being one of the hardest hit sectors; and

WHEREAS, Across the country, independent restaurants directly employ 11 million workers and indirectly employ 5 million more up and down the food and hospitality supply chain and in San Francisco, restaurants employ 60,000 workers; and

WHEREAS, In San Francisco, thousands of restaurants have been forced to close or operate in a limited capacity due to the inability to seat patrons inside their restaurant, while normal expenses like rent, vendor payments, etc. continue to be due; and

WHEREAS, The City’s reopening timeline initially targeted indoor dining to reopen on July 13, but has subsequently placed indoor dining on hold indefinitely due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in San Francisco; and
WHEREAS, Without Federal relief, 50-60% of San Francisco restaurants may not be able to survive financially beyond November according to the Golden Gate Restaurant Association; and

WHEREAS, The Real Economic Support that Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or Restaurants Act, would establish a $120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund which would be only for non-publicly traded Independent Restaurants with 20 or less units, would be a grant (not a loan) based on the amount of revenue losses from same period last year, less any Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds received, would apply to operating expenses not covered by the PPP forgiveness, and would first be eligible for minority and women owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, The Restaurants Act has been introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate with bipartisan support and its passage is urgently needed so that restaurants can access funding to give them a fighting chance to withstand the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and reduce the rate of restaurant closures; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has previously passed Resolutions in support of Federal relief efforts for businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic including the CARES Act and HEROES Act; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the United States Congress to expeditiously pass the Real Economic Support that Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act (Restaurants Act) to establish the $120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund to support our struggling restaurant industry; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Senator Kamala Harris and Senator Diane Feinstein.
Resolution urging the United States Congress to pass the Real Economic Support that Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive Act, or Restaurants Act, establishing the $120B Independent Restaurant Revitalization Fund to support the struggling restaurant industry.

July 28, 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 7/28/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

London N. Breed
Mayor

8/7/2020

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

8/10/2020