Resolution urging President Joe Biden to fully lift Title 42 restrictions at the United States-Mexico border to allow vulnerable and exploited people seeking asylum, including single adults, LGBT couples, and families, to enter the country and to ease the growing humanitarian crisis at the border caused by policies hostile to migrants.

WHEREAS, Title 42 is a 1944 section of the U.S. Code addressing Public Health, and allows the U.S. to limit nonessential travel in order to reduce transmission of communicable disease; and

WHEREAS, In 2020 the Trump administration -- continuing its inhumane attacks on immigration, and contrary to scientific and medical advice -- invoked Title 42 to block asylum-seekers at the Mexico border, unleashing chaos, confusion and pain for migrants who are fleeing violence and persecution in their own countries; and

WHEREAS, The use of Title 42 to close the U.S.-Mexico border to asylum seekers and others asking for protection in the United States represents an inappropriate and punitive use of public health policy, in response to the COVID-19 global health pandemic to further an anti-immigrant agenda; and

WHEREAS, The border closure represents a clear violation of the law granting asylum seekers safe passage, resulting in further family separation, and a surge number of unaccompanied children entering the country unprotected and without their family members; and

WHEREAS, The Biden Administration has indicated it will modify enforcement of Title 42 to allow families with children and people with certain conditions enter the country as they wait for process; and
WHEREAS, Any modified version of the Title 42 border closure will violate the rights of asylum seekers, risking their lives and dignity of vulnerable populations such as unaccompanied minors, transitional age youth, women, LGBTQ and transgender immigrants vulnerable to exploitation, human trafficking, and violence in countries of origin and at the U.S.-Mexico border; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is a Sanctuary City and has invested heavily to support immigrant legal aid and other vital resources to help immigrants transition the to U.S. and, as a result, is home to hundreds of advocates and community organizations fighting for the rights and dignity of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is also a leader and model for how a local government can write laws and create policies to support and engage immigrant communities and must continue to push the federal government to respect life and dignity of migrants; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands in solidarity to urge President Joe Biden to lift Title 42 restrictions for all migrants seeking asylum and allow them to enter safely and in pursuit of their legal rights; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform, to ensure that policies of child separation can never be enacted again and that the contribution and value of immigrants be codified and enshrined in our federal laws; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to President Joseph Biden and to San Francisco’s delegation to the U.S. Congress, with a request to take all actions necessary to achieve the objectives of this Resolution.
Resolution urging President Joe Biden to fully lift Title 42 restrictions at the United States-Mexico border to allow vulnerable and exploited people seeking asylum, including single adults, LGBT couples, and families, to enter the country and to ease the growing humanitarian crisis at the border caused by policies hostile to migrants.

July 27, 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 7/27/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

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