[Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1185 (McCarty) - Sheriff Oversight]

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1185, authored by Assembly Member Kevin McCarty, and co-authored by Senator Holly Mitchell, Assembly Members Autumn Burke, Mike Gipson, and Christopher Holden, to authorize each county to establish a sheriff oversight board and urging Governor Gavin Newsom to sign AB 1185.

WHEREAS, There is currently a national movement for justice reform across the United States to end decades of race-based brutality and to increase public accountability and transparency of law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, the late San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Adachi began investigation stories from incarcerated individuals who were forced into gladiator fights against each other by sheriff deputies; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, in rural Trinity County, then-Sheriff Bruce Haney moved six hours away to Oregon, stopped coming to work and still collected his salary and benefits without public accountability; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, Sacramento County Sheriff Scott Jones locked the county’s then-inspector general, Rick Braziel out of his department, revoking all access to records and personnel and effectively bringing all independent investigation to a halt because he did not agree with the criticisms of the department from the inspector general; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff oversight has been long overdue in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, On January 12, 2016, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted to implement a Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission and Inspector General, one of the first 

Supervisors Walton; Fewer, Peskin, Yee, Preston, Haney, Safai, Mandelman
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
in the state, with the mission to improve public transparency and accountability of the Los
Angeles County Sheriff’s Department; and

WHEREAS, On February 12, 2019, the Board of Supervisors requested a hearing to inquire why the San Francisco Sheriff’s Office, as a law enforcement agency, lacks an oversight body in light of reports of sheriff deputies mistreating incarcerated individuals; and

WHEREAS, On February 21, 2019, Assembly Member Kevin McCarty of Sacramento introduced California Assembly Bill No. 1185 (AB 1185), to authorize counties to establish a sheriff oversight board and an inspector general either by action of the board of supervisors or through a vote of county residents; and

WHEREAS, AB 1185 would authorize the chair of the oversight board and the inspector general to issue a subpoena when deemed necessary to investigate a matter such as misconduct within their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, AB 1185 would allow the county board of supervisors to appoint a chair and members to the sheriff oversight board; and

WHEREAS, AB 1185 would mean that sheriffs must comply with oversight efforts; and

WHEREAS, Existing lack of oversight has found taxpayers footing the bill for millions of dollars as a result of legal fees of allegations of misconduct against deputies, jailers, and sheriff’s department employees in California; and

WHEREAS, On July 21, 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors submitted File No. 200514, a Charter Amendment to establish a Sheriff’s Department Oversight Board and Inspector General to the November 3, 2020, General Election for San Francisco voters to decide; and

WHEREAS, The California State Senate passed AB 1185 on August 28, 2020, and the California State Assembly passed AB 1185 on August 31, 2020; and, be it
RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is committed to comprehensive and systematic justice reform to provide public transparency and accountability of law enforcement agencies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors announces its support for Assembly Bill No. 1185 Sheriff Oversight; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges California Governor Gavin Newsom to sign Assembly Bill No. 1185 into law; 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 the California Governor, California State Legislature as well as the bill’s primary sponsor, California Assembly Member Kevin McCarty no later than 30 days upon passage of this Resolution.
Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. (AB) 1185, authored by Assembly Member Kevin McCarty, and co-authored by Senator Holly Mitchell, Assembly Members Autumn Burke, Mike Gipson, and Christopher Holden, to authorize each county to establish a sheriff oversight board and urging Governor Gavin Newsom to sign AB 1185.

September 15, 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 9/15/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

__________________________
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

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9/25/2020
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.

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Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

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9/25/2020
Date