Resolution supporting USF Workers United, a broad coalition of workers and faculty members at the University of San Francisco, drastically affected by furloughs, cuts in healthcare and employment benefits, and lack of safety protocols during COVID-19.

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is currently experiencing an outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) which has been deemed a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, On March 6, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), which was preceded by a March 4, 2020, Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom and a February 25, 2020, Proclamation by the Mayor Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued Order No. C19-07, commonly referred to as Shelter in Place, directing all individuals living in the City and County of San Francisco to shelter in place at their residence with limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, The University of San Francisco (USF) Workers United is comprised of a broad coalition of workers standing in solidarity during this pandemic to protect the well-being and future of their workers, faculty and students; and

WHEREAS, OPEIU Local 29 represents approximately 6,000 people, who work as office and technical employees at USF; these members have been disproportionately furloughed, which has led to cuts in income while being held accountable to the same work product; and
WHEREAS, SEIU Local 87 represents approximately 4,000 people, and those who
work as janitors at USF; and most of the workforce is furloughed; and

WHEREAS, Local 2 represents approximately 14,000 people, and those who work in
hospitality in USF have been furloughed; and

WHEREAS, SEIU USWW represents approximately 40,000 thousand people, and the
service workers at USF as well as most of the campus laborers and gardeners are furloughed; and

WHEREAS, USF Faculty Association represents the approximately 468 non-law school
faculty and librarians who work at USF; and have taken salary cuts to prevent layoffs; and

WHEREAS, The USF Part Time Faculty Association represents approximately 661
adjuncts from the spring 2020 semester and a pool of 1,000+ adjunct faculty who have taught
at USF in the last two years, who are currently awaiting a final fall 2020 schedule update to
learn if raised class cap sizes, delayed opportunities for sabbatical leave of full-time faculty,
and enrollment drops have resulted in loss of employment and subsequent access to
healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Members of the service worker industry in hospitality and leisure are
experiencing an unemployment rate of 28.9%, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics; and

WHEREAS, According to the Washington Post, the Black and Latinx communities are
disproportionately affected by furloughs, while the White unemployment rate is around 10%,
Black and Lantinx unemployment rates are 15.4% and 14.5%, respectively, according to the
Bureau of Labor Statistics; and

WHEREAS, Employees earning less than $20 per hour were 115% more likely than
those making $30 an hour or more to be laid off, low-wage workers are six times less likely to
be able to work from home than high-income workers; and
WHEREAS, Workers who have been partially furloughed and are working reduced hours may not be able to qualify for UI wage replacement, effectively meaning that they are taking a wage cut; and struggling to survive in the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, According to the New York Times, 36,000,000 people filed unemployment claims in a two-month period as a direct result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, 1,400,000 million people filed for unemployment just last week, the 19th consecutive week of more than a million unemployment applications; and

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Economic Analysis confirms back-to-back fiscal quarters of marked economic decline, including a decrease in GDP of more than 32% last quarter, a clear indicator of what the Washington post describes as the “fastest recession in US history;” and

WHEREAS, Families all over the nation and within the City and County of San Francisco are detrimentally affected by this recession, and millions of workers have been laid off or furloughed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to USF Workers United in order to combat the spread of COVID-19 and maintain the health and safety of the service professionals who risk their lives for well-being of others; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to USF Workers United and requests that the University act in good faith to protect the health and safety of all USF communities by prioritizing the following:

1) Continue to offer access to affordable health care for USF community members who have been laid off, furloughed, or have lost teaching opportunities because of the pandemic;

2) Negotiating with all bargaining units the necessary conditions for a safe return to campus;

3) Understanding and observing custodians’ recommendations for a safe re-opening;
4) Prioritizing the protection of all USF community members, including workers and, of course, students; and, be it further resolved, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, no later than 30 days after the passage of this Resolution, shall transmit copies of this Resolution to the following people at the University of San Francisco, President: Paul Fitzgerald; Interim Provost: Tyrone H. Cannon; Interim Vice Provost: Pamela Balls Organista; VP Finance: Charlie Cross.
Resolution supporting USF Workers United, a broad coalition of workers and faculty members at the University of San Francisco, drastically affected by furloughs, cuts in healthcare and employment benefits, and lack of safety protocols during COVID-19.

September 17, 2020 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

September 17, 2020 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED AS A COMMITTEE REPORT

September 22, 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 9/22/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

10/2/20
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

10/02/2020
Date

File No.
200919