Resolution urging the Federal Government to extend Temporary Protected Status for all thirteen nations currently included in the program, and to establish a pathway to permanency for these recipients.

WHEREAS, Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, is a temporary, renewable program that provides relief from deportation and access to a work permit for certain migrants from a small number of countries who may not meet the legal definition of refugee but who cannot safely return to their country of origin; and

WHEREAS, Under current law, the Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a country for TPS when one of three circumstances occurs: There is “ongoing armed conflict” that creates unsafe conditions for returning nationals; there has been an earthquake, flood, drought, epidemic, or other natural disaster that makes the state temporarily unable to accept the return of its nationals, and the state has requested TPS designation; or “extraordinary and temporary” conditions in a state prevent its nationals from returning safely; and

WHEREAS, The TPS provision in the Immigration and Nationality Act states that a bill or amendment that provides for the adjustment to lawful temporary or legal permanent resident (LPR) status for any migrant receiving TPS requires a supermajority vote in the Senate (i.e., three-fifths of all Senators) voting affirmatively; and

WHEREAS, Provisions that would have allowed nationals from various countries that have had TPS to adjust to LPR status had been introduced in past Congresses, but not enacted; and

WHEREAS, On January 25, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13768, Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States, which was later implemented
through a memorandum signed by the Secretary of Homeland Security on February 20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, These executive actions dramatically increased the universe of immigrants subject to deportation, eliminating the Obama Administration’s enforcement priorities; and

WHEREAS, Consequently, many beneficiaries will not only become subject to deportation, but will be at serious risk because DHS has extensive and updated records on their places of residence and work; and

WHEREAS, The highest number of these TPS holders come from El Salvador, Haiti, and Honduras; and

WHEREAS, California is home to the largest population of TPS beneficiaries in the country, with 55,000 people in the state, including an estimated 15,000-20,000 of those individuals living in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, Many TPS beneficiaries and their families have deep ties to San Francisco, the Bay Area and other communities across the nation, where they have started businesses, built community, bought homes and positively contributed to the social, cultural and economic fabric of cities and this nation; and

WHEREAS, An end to TPS would harm not only 350,000 beneficiaries nationwide, but also a far greater number of family members; and

WHEREAS, An end to TPS would harm the San Francisco Bay Area, State, and National economy with a projected $45 billion reduction to the national GDP over a decade, $6.9 billion in lost Social Security and Medicare contributions over a decade, $1 billion in turnover costs to businesses, and $3.1 billion in costs to the federal government to deport all TPS holders from El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras; and
WHEREAS, Conditions in designated TPS countries remain dangerous and unsafe, such that deportation to these nations not only separate families, but place individuals and their families at grave risk; and

WHEREAS, An end to TPS would harm San Francisco and the Bay Area by throwing the lives of long-term city residents into chaos, separating parents from their children, impacting local small businesses and ultimately damaging the social and economic fabric of our city, and undermining our local values of inclusion and protection for All; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Federal Government to extend TPS by no less than eighteen months (18 months) for all designated countries; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Executive Branch and Legislative Branch of the Federal Government work together to legislate a pathway to permanent residency for TPS beneficiaries, some of whom have been protected under the program for close to two decades.
Resolution urging the Federal Government to extend Temporary Protected Status for all thirteen nations currently included in the program, and to establish a pathway to permanency for these recipients.

November 14, 2017 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 9 - Breed, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee
Excused: 2 - Cohen and Farrell

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 11/14/2017 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 his 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