[Urging the Establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group]

Resolution urging the establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group, and urging the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Entertainment Commission to convene the working group with a goal of protecting, preserving, and expanding LGBTQ nightlife, including drafting and enact a plan to create the Citywide LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy.

WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to a large LGBTQ population and is the epicenter for LGBT culture; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a rich history of LGBTQ nightlife dating back many decades and still existing today, particularly in the South of Market, Castro, Mission, Polk Street, and Tenderloin, as well as other neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Bars and nightlife have historically provided a safe gathering space for members of the LGBTQ community, including spaces to find and build community; and

WHEREAS, Nightlife played an important part in the history of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement, with the Stonewall uprising at the Stonewall Inn in New York City in 1969; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ nightlife businesses are a critical part of San Francisco’s reputation as a world-class nightlife and entertainment destination and are an integral part of the City’s nighttime economy; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ nightlife businesses are important arts venues, social spaces, and places for political organization and charitable fundraising; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, the San Francisco City Economist released Nighttime Economy Economic Impact Report that showed the entertainment and nightlife industries employed
over 60,000 people, generated $6 billion in annual revenue, and contributed $80 million in taxes to the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, Some longstanding LGBTQ nightlife businesses, particularly in the South of Market neighborhoods, are facing potential displacement that would negatively impacts San Francisco’s nightlife cultural and economy, as well as the LGBTQ community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, the Board of Supervisors passed the Western SOMA Plan, which rezoned the Western South of Market Area, where a large number of LGBTQ nightclubs are located; and

WHEREAS, The Western SOMA Plan authorized the goal of preserving LGBT assets in the area, including through the creation of an LGBTQ Cultural Heritage District; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, the Historic Preservation Commission adopted the LGBTQ Historic Context Statement, which provides background on the struggles and victories of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board calls for the creation of the LGBTQ Nightlife Working Group, consisting of members of the LGBTQ community, LGBTQ nightlife venue owners, operators, and employees, and nightlife advocates; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Mayor’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development and Entertainment Commission to convene and work with the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group to develop, promote, and expand programs to support LGBTQ nightlife and cultural heritage; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the LGBT Nightlife and Culture Working Group, with support from the Planning Department, will develop and draft a plan to implement the Citywide LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy, and submit this plan to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors within 6 months of the adoption of this resolution.
Resolution urging the establishment of the LGBTQ Nightlife and Culture Working Group, and urging the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Entertainment Commission to convene the working group with a goal of protecting, preserving, and expanding LGBTQ nightlife, including drafting and enact a plan to create the Citywide LGBTQ Cultural Heritage Strategy.

September 20, 2016 Board of Supervisors - REFERRED

October 03, 2016 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 18, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
   Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/18/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved: 10/28/2016