Resolution urging the California State Legislature to amend the State Vehicle Code to impose harsher penalties for side shows and stunt driving.

WHEREAS, In recent years, San Francisco has seen a rise in "motor vehicle stunt driving," which includes reckless driving, vehicle speed contests, and/or exhibitions that involve stunts and tricks with vehicles; and

WHEREAS, The various stunts and tricks featured during motor vehicle stunt driving are extremely dangerous, and imperil both willing spectators and uninvolved bystanders, as well as participants; and

WHEREAS, In the San Francisco Bay Area, the use of vehicles for stunts and tricks has caused serious injuries and death to not only participants and spectators but also to bystanders; and

WHEREAS, Stunt driving events have occurred over the last few decades but have been becoming increasingly prevalent and they are occurring in neighborhoods that have not typically seen them; and

WHEREAS, A side show occurred at Main and Harrison Streets on Sunday October 2, 2022; this event caused a serious noise disturbance to the residents nearby, many of whom are families and seniors; at this event a person was struck by vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Several side shows have occurred at the intersection of Main and Harrison Streets and also at 6th and Harrison Streets; and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of the San Francisco Police Department to not have officers enter into a side show or stunt driving event to break it up because participants may be armed and violence may escalate to a level far beyond the impacts of stunt driving itself; and
WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department operates a specialized Stunt Driving Response Unit, or SDRU, to prioritize the City’s police response to reported incidents; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors unanimously passed legislation mandating removal and impoundment of vehicles used in side shows or violations under state law for no less than 14 days for the first incident, no less than 15 days for the second, and no less than 29 days thereafter (Ordinance No. 212-20); and

WHEREAS, State law places limitations on how long a vehicle can be impounded, which unpaid fines prohibit vehicle registration, and when a person’s license can be revoked; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco can only hold vehicles for 30 days, can not institute barriers to car registration, and can not suspend licenses until 2025; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State Legislature to amend several state laws that would affect San Francisco’s ability to impose harsher penalties on stunt driving participants; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State Legislature to amend California Vehicle Code, Section 22651 to extend the number of days a car can be impounded from 30 to at least 180; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State Legislature to amend California Vehicle Code, Section 40000 to make the renewal of the vehicle registration contingent upon payment of any future fines imposed by the City and County of San Francisco; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State Legislature to reevaluate enacting AB 3 before its current date of 2025; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors intends to draft legislation that
will strengthen the penalties that can be levied upon stunt driving participants; 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 San Francisco’s state legislative delegation and
the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly.
Resolution urging the California State Legislature to amend the State Vehicle Code to impose harsher penalties for side shows and stunt driving.

October 25, 2022 Board of Supervisors - CONTINUED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

November 01, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton
Noes: 1 - Preston

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 11/1/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Catvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

11/10/2022
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.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

11/10/2021
Date

File No.
221085