Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 3121, authored by Assembly Member Shirley Weber, establishing a task force to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans; and affirming San Francisco’s commitment for a reparations plan.

WHEREAS, African Americans were enslaved in the United States from 1619 to 1865, when slavery was officially ended with the ratification of the 13th Amendment but the trauma of slavery has remained throughout generation for the African American community; and

WHEREAS, The legacy of slavery continues to manifest in disparities for the African American community through education, underfunded neighborhoods, overcriminalization, health, and economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, Reparations are a financial recompense for African Americans whose ancestors provided free labor for hundreds of years and lived through the Jim Crow era; the enslavement and overall persecution of African Americans in the United States has enriched the United States and created disparities in income, wealth, and education between Blacks and whites; reparations are needed to reduced these current-day legacies of slavery and Jim Crow; and

WHEREAS, On September 30, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill No. 3121 (AB 3121) to establish a first-in-the-nation state task force to study and make recommendations on reparations for slavery; and

WHEREAS, AB 3121, Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, is sponsored by Assemblymember Shirley Weber of San Diego and establishes a nine-member task force to inform Californians about slavery and explore ways

Supervisors Walton; Safai, Ronen, Preston, Mandelman, Yee
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the state might provide reparations for African Americans in California who were descendants of slavery; and

WHEREAS, AB 3121 would require the Task Force to recommend, among other things, the form of compensation that should be awarded, the instrumentalities through which it should be awarded, and who should be eligible for this compensation and would require the Task Force to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the California State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, The Task Force established from AB 3121 will recommend appropriate ways to educate the California public of the Task Force’s findings; and

WHEREAS, The Task Force established from AB 3121 will also recommend how the State of California will offer a formal apology on behalf of the people of California for the perpetration of gross human rights violations and crimes against humanity on African slaves and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, The Task Force established from AB 3121 will review existing California laws and policies that continue to disproportionately and negatively affect African Americans as a group and perpetuate the lingering material and psychosocial effects of slavery to be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, The AB 3121 Task Force will consider what form of compensation should be awarded, through what instrumentalities and who should be eligible for such compensation through the task force’s findings; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Resolution No. 376-20 in August 2020 to support a reparations plan to comprehensively address the inequities that exists in the African American community as a result of slavery’s legacy of systemic oppression and creation of an advisory committee for the African American community; and
WHEREAS, AB 3121 is closely aligned with Resolution No. 376-20 with similar goals of establishing a reparations plan for the African American community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby formally express support for AB 3121, Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to a reparations plan for the African American community; and, be it

FURHTER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to create a reparations advisory committee in partnership with the Human Rights Commission as intended in Resolution No. 376-20 to prioritize reparations addressing education, housing, violence prevention, workforce development, economic opportunities, financial stability, small business, transportation, health disparities, food insecurity, and overcriminalization to achieve a comprehensive and true reparations plan to alleviate the residue of oppression from slavery that continues to plague the African American community in San Francisco.
Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 3121, authored by Assembly Member Shirley Weber, establishing a task force to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans; and affirming San Francisco’s commitment for a reparations plan.

October 20, 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 10/20/2020 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 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