[Recognizing November as National Native American Heritage Month]

Resolution recognizing November 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021, as National Native American Heritage Month for their contributions to our nation and as first peoples of San Francisco, celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and encouraging all people to participate in activities and events to learn about and understand the contribution of indigenous people to this land.

WHEREAS, From November 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021, San Francisco and the United States celebrate National Native American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to their longstanding history in San Francisco and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans are the original indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States with over 500 Nations across the United States and over 150 federally recognized and 75 non-federally recognized Nations petitioning for recognition in California; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco was originally inhabited by the Yelamu, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, where an estimated 1500 inhabitants lived when the Spanish arrived in the 16th Century; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco formally recognized in 2019 the American Indian Cultural Center of San Francisco as a virtual Cultural Center. The first American Indian Center (AIC) in San Francisco started in the 1940’s to create an identity for American Indian people, providing programming space and resources for American Indians in
the Urban areas. These community and cultural centers hold a strong history and cultural
foundation for American Indians in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco established the American Indian
Cultural District in March of 2020 to honor, recognize, and celebrate the American Indian
legacy, culture, people, and contributions and maintain American Indian sacred spaces and
traditions to elevate a deep-rooted sense of community; and

WHEREAS, The Indian Relocation Act of 1956 which moved over 750,000 American
Indians off their ancestral lands into cities such as San Francisco where they would be forced
to assimilate. American Indian cultural centers became the cultural foundation for American
Indians in Urban communities resulting in California being one of the highest populations of
relocated inter-tribal Nations. Today 90 percent of American Indian populations live in urban
cities like San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco serves as a catalyst city to many American Indian actions
across the nation notably the historic occupation of Alcatraz which began November 20,
1969, and was one of the longest protests in history lasting 19 months and served as an
international platform for bringing visibility to Indian termination policies broken and unratified
treaties, exposing the genocide of California Indian Nations and the extraction of their
environmental resources funded by the federal government and state of California; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (SFHRC) published a
comprehensive report in 2007 called Discrimination by Omission: Issues of Concerns for
Native Americans in San Francisco, which served as the basis for the newly funded American
Indian Truth & Healing Reparations Advisory Committee under SFHRC to address American
Indian concerns to advise the City and the public regarding reparations for past and present
institutional racism on unceded stolen lands, examine strategies to heal Native invisibility,
create a collective voice to remedy the absence of political representation, generate equitable resource distribution; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco acknowledges that San Francisco ranks tenth among cities with the highest number of murdered or missing indigenous women cases and passed, a Resolution in May of 2019 recognizing May 5th as the National Day of Honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisor also urges Congress and local governments to support education, tribal self-governance and self-determination for Native peoples; and

WHEREAS, With the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 Congress reaffirmed and recognized the important contributions of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, The people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of American Indians and their ancestors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, elected by the people recognize the month of November 2021 as “National Native American Heritage Month” and urges the people of San Francisco to observe this month with curiosity, cultural humility, appreciation and participation with people and activities of the Native American tradition.
November 09, 2021 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING NEW TITLE
Ayes: 10 - Chan, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton
Absent: 1 - Haney

November 09, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED
Ayes: 10 - Chan, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton
Absent: 1 - Haney

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 11/9/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board