Motion declaring solidarity and support for San Francisco youth protesting against anti-LGBTQ+ legislation nationwide.

WHEREAS, Queer youth are being targeted with discriminatory laws and policies across the United States; and

WHEREAS, 2023 has seen a record amount of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation introduced in state legislatures across the nation, with at least 340 pieces of legislation targeting the LGBTQ+ community having been introduced; and

WHEREAS, In 2022, 315 anti-LGBTQ+ bills were introduced in state legislatures across the United States, with 29 ultimately being signed into law; and

WHEREAS, These continued attacks on the rights and well-being of queer people disproportionately target queer youth, with bills prohibiting schools to discuss queer people and issues, and banning transgender youth from participating in extracurricular sports consistent with their gender identities; and

WHEREAS, These anti-LGBTQ+ bills have helped propel fear and misunderstanding of LGBTQ+ people, particularly queer youth, across the United States; and

WHEREAS, On March 25th, 2023, two queer middle school students organized a demonstration titled “Youth 4 Trans Liberation” to protest recent anti-trans legislation that would ban gender affirming healthcare for youth; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the march was to bring together the transgender community in San Francisco to center trans youth voices on anti-trans legislation, as well as to show solidarity with the transgender community in states with anti-trans legislation in effect; and

WHEREAS, A coalition of queer high school students in San Francisco organized a school walkout in protest of these discriminatory laws and proposed legislation on March 31, 2023; and

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4 Bans on Transgender Youth Participation in Sports, Movement Advancement Project (MAP) (https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/sports_participation_bans)
WHEREAS, The goal of the walkout was to center the voices of queer and trans youth, raising awareness on pressing national issues and creating an empowering space to fully embrace LGBTQ+ identities and celebrate queer joy; and therefore be it
MOVED, That the Youth Commission declares solidarity with and support for San Francisco youth protesting against anti-LGBTQ+ legislation nationwide.