

1 [Establishment of Office for Young Americans under the Executive Office of the  
2 President]

3 **Motion urging the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and San Francisco Mayor**  
4 **London Breed to support House of Representatives Bill 4444**

5 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission is a chartered body in the  
6 City and County of San Francisco implying the voice of youth in government spaces;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, House Bill 4444 would establish an Office of Young Americans in  
9 the White House, leveraging space for youth to speak on issues that disproportionately  
10 affect them so young people feel invested in our future government and will receive the  
11 tools to build a better, brighter future in government; and

12 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission demonstrates the positive  
13 impact of youth voice on city politics in San Francisco, such as enabling free public  
14 transit for young people from the pilot program FreeMuni for Youth, closing a dangerous  
15 city jail on 850 Bryant Street, advocating for fentanyl overdose reduction education  
16 programs and Narcan distribution, addressing hazardous waste and environmental  
17 pollution and food insecurity in disadvantaged San Francisco communities such as  
18 Bayview Hunters Point – actions that benefitted hundreds of San Francisco residents;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Youth issues need youth advice, following the issue of  
21 homelessness among transitional-aged LGBTQ+ youth were 38% of youth experiencing  
22 homelessness identify as LGBTQ+, Youth Commissioners researched and met with  
23 local San Francisco LGBTQ+ youth peer support services such as LYRIC to address

1 this issue, connecting with their needs and translating their experiences into their  
2 Budget and Policy Report for the past 12 years to make a difference for these youth;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Youth issues need youth advice, following the issue of closing the  
5 dangerous city juvenile justice hall, Youth Commissioners visited San Francisco's  
6 juvenile justice hall to understand life on a daily basis for incarcerated youth and the  
7 condition of the jail facilities in which they were able to discover the lack of funding the  
8 facility received and pushed to fund city departments and community based  
9 organizations that support youth with violence prevention and youth development; and

10 WHEREAS, Youth issues need youth advice, following the issue of advocating  
11 for language access for youth in San Francisco, urging the San Francisco Mayor and  
12 Board of Supervisors to fund the Office of Engagement and Immigrant Action, English  
13 as a Second Language (ESL), and foreign language classes, and additional translation  
14 resources to meet translation needs of San Franciscan Youth and families. Being youth  
15 who have researched or experienced many San Francisco issues creates an accurate,  
16 connective representative view point in government. Youth Commission's fundamental  
17 role in representing the unmet needs of youth stems from their experiences as youth,  
18 thus bridging their experiences to their work has helped thousands of San Francisco  
19 Youth receive the services they need; and

20 WHEREAS, Youth issues need youth advice, following the issue of advocating  
21 for Free MUNI for youth, Youth Commissioners worked tirelessly through rallies, policy  
22 documents, and meetings with the SFMTA and BOS to enable all youth under 17 with

1 access to free public transportation throughout the city which 39,350 of youth rely on,  
2 equating to 34% of San Francisco youth; and

3 WHEREAS, Youth civic engagement has surged since 2018, increasing the need  
4 for a representative body of youth for our nation, with 50% of young Americans saying  
5 they are “as well informed as most people,” 1 in 7 youth attended a public march or  
6 demonstration, 75% agree that voting is an important way to having a say in the future  
7 of our country, and thousands of youth influencing election turnouts from a Tufts  
8 University 2022 Post-Election CIRCLE survey; and

9 WHEREAS, Young people have a strong sense of individual and collaborative  
10 effectiveness. The Tufts University CIRCLE survey conducted between November 8-30,  
11 2022 concluded that 76% of young people believe they have the power to change the  
12 country, 74% believe that there are things they can do to make the world a better place,  
13 and 83% acknowledge young people’s potential to work with other generations to create  
14 change; and

15 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission recognizes Youth  
16 Commission intern, Emily Yang, for her passion, research, and efforts to civically  
17 engage young people in advocacy and government; and therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the San  
19 Francisco Board of Supervisors and Mayor Breed to support H.R. 4444 to establish an  
20 Office for Young Americans under the Executive Office of the President; and

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco Youth Commission staff are  
22 directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the Office of the Mayor and Board of  
23 Supervisors.