Resolution supporting California Assembly Bill 800 of the 2023 Legislative Session, and urging the creation of a high school “Workplace Readiness Week” in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, California Assemblymember Liz Ortega (District 20) has introduced California Assembly Bill 800 in the 2023-2024 Session of the California State Legislature to Create a “Workplace Readiness Week” for California high schools to educate students on their rights as workers and their specific rights as employed minors; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, California Assembly Bill 800 would require that California high school students in 11th and 12th grades be provided with information on workers’ rights, including 1) local, state, and federal child labor laws, 2) wage and hour protections, 3) workers’ safety, 4) workers’ compensation, 5) paid sick leave, 6) prohibitions against retaliation, and 7) the right to organize a union in the workplace, all as part of their regular education; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, California Assembly Bill 800 would require that California high school students be provided with a physical document detailing their rights as employed minors before receiving a Statement of Intent to Employ a Minor and Request for a Work Permit-Certificate of Age (minors’ work permit); and

WHEREAS, If enacted, California Assembly Bill 800 would have California high school students be educated on the history of the labor movement and the movement’s role in gaining the aforementioned protections and benefits for workers; and

1 California Assembly Bill 800, 2023-2024 Legislative Session (legiscan.com/CA/text/AB800/2023#)
WHEREAS, The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the youth labor force (people aged 16 to 24 who work or are looking for job) increases considerably between April and July each year as during these months many high school and college students seek for work, and many graduates enter the labor market to look for or begin permanent employment\(^2\), and

WHEREAS, The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the youth labor force expanded by 2.6 million, or 12.9 percent, from April to July, reaching a total of 22.9 million youth workers in 2022, and

WHEREAS, educating high school students about their rights as they join the workforce will prepare them to navigate workplace experiences when they enter adulthood, and therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission supports the passage and enactment of California Assembly Bill 800, to create a state-wide “Workplace Readiness Week” in California high schools to educate students on their rights as workers, and their explicit rights as employed minors, and urges the Board of Supervisors and Mayor to support California Assembly Bill 800, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the City and County of San Francisco to create a program aimed at informing youth of their rights as workers, and their explicit rights as employed minors.


Commissioner(s): Barker Plummer, Pimentel