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Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 815

Whereas the Port of San Francisco is of central importance to the City's labor movement, both because of the great tradition of activism of the maritime trades and because of the employment the Port provides now and could offer increasingly in the future; and

Whereas the so-called "seawall" lots that are property of the Port along the northern waterfront no longer serve a maritime purpose; and

Whereas the future viability of the Port and its maritime mission depends in part on its ability to generate revenue from uses of these seawall lots not permitted under current state "public trust" restrictions; and

Whereas at the Port's request provisions were inserted into California State Senate Bill 815 to remove "public trust" land use restrictions and to place uses of the seawall lots under the jurisdiction of the City and County of San Francisco and its standard processes of planning and review; and

Whereas the author of the legislation then inserted without the consent of the Port new restrictions on the uses of the seawall lots into the legislation and did not include seawall lot 351 at the corner of Washington and The Embarcadero in the legislation as had been requested by the Port; and

Whereas these new restrictions and omissions would potentially deprive the Port of revenue essential to its future viability; and

Whereas the exceptional value of responsible development of these lots could be leveraged to create significant amounts of affordable and low-income housing either on or off-site; and

Whereas these new restrictions would hinder responsible development along the waterfront; and

Whereas the intrusion of state government through these new restrictions into what in this instance should be local government decisions, subject to debates involving all communities and neighborhoods of San Francisco, sets a dangerous precedent with regard not only to planning and development, but to all aspects of the City's self-determination;

Therefore Be it Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council asserts that the author of Senate Bill 815 should remove these restrictions from the

legislation and refrain from reintroducing them in any other form or legislation; and

Be it Finally Resolved the Executive Director convey this resolution to the author of Senate Bill 815 the day following its passage under a cover letter bearing his signature and the official imprint of the San Francisco Labor Council.

Introduced by Mike Theriault, San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council, and adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on August 13, 2007.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Paulson", with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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