Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the San Francisco Human Services Fire Victims Assistance Fund.

NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font. Additions to Codes are in single-underline italics Times New Roman font. Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font. Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font. Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font. Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Findings.

(a) Dozens of residents are impacted by fire each year in San Francisco. In addition to losing their belongings, fire victims often lose their homes. Given the skyrocketing rents in the City, low and middle income fire victims are acutely vulnerable to being priced out of San Francisco after a fire.

(b) The Department of Human Services currently has some funds in its budget that are used for limited term housing subsidies for displaced fire victims who earn below 35% of the Area Median Income (AMI), but there are no benefits for victims earning over 35% of the AMI, and neither the Department nor the City has a dedicated, permanent fund for assisting fire victims.
Section 2. The Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Section 10.100-298, to read as follows:

SEC. 10.100-298. SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES FIRE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND.

(a) Establishment of Fund. The San Francisco Fire Victims Assistance Fund (the “Fund”) is established as a category six fund to receive any monies appropriated or donated for the purpose of assisting victims of housing fires as set forth in this Section 10.100-298. Donations to the Fund are deemed approved for acceptance and expenditure.

(b) Use of Fund. Monies in the fund shall be used exclusively by the Executive Director of the Human Services Agency or his or her designee (the “Director”) to provide rental financial assistance to persons who have been displaced from their homes by fire in the past three months. The Director may make payments from the Fund to persons so qualified and earning up to 100% of the Area Median Income. Assistance Total payments from the Fund to any one person in connection with a single incident shall not extend beyond 24 months from the date of the incident exceed $10,000. Payments from the Fund are entirely in the Director’s lawful discretion and there is in no circumstance a right to a payment.

(c) Administration of Fund. The Director shall submit an annual written report to the Board of Supervisors and the Controller within the first two weeks of July showing donations received, the nature and amount of such donations, and the disposition thereof, together with a description of the individual payments made from the Fund.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.
Section 4. Undertaking for the General Welfare. In enacting and implementing this ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is not assuming, nor is it imposing on its officers and employees, an obligation for breach of which it is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately caused injury.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:  
THOMAS J. OWEN  
Deputy City Attorney
Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the San Francisco Fire Victims Assistance Fund.

July 11, 2016 Land Use and Transportation Committee - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING NEW TITLE

July 11, 2016 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED AS A COMMITTEE REPORT

July 12, 2016 Board of Supervisors - PASSED, ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

July 19, 2016 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 7/19/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor

Date Approved