Resolution urging the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to adopt a version of Regulation 12, Rule 16, which includes all four proposed refinery emission reduction options, including the Community-Worker Alternative to adopt enforceable numeric emission limits to ensure the health and safety of both refinery workers and the greater community.

WHEREAS, The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is charged by the federal and state governments to enforce federal and state air quality laws against industrial sources, and its jurisdiction covers the nine Bay Area counties; and

WHEREAS, BAAQMD's mission statement is to aim "to create a healthy breathing environment for every Bay Area resident while protecting and improving public health, air quality, and the global climate;" and

WHEREAS, The American Lung Association's 2016 "State of the Air" report gave the Bay Area a "Grade D" for air quality; and

WHEREAS, Residents in the Bay Area refinery corridor and other Bay Area communities already suffer disproportionately from emissions-related diseases, including cancers, asthma and other autoimmune-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, Despite the fact that US Energy Information Administration (EIA) data shows that west coast gasoline demand has declined since 2006, the five Bay Area petroleum refineries are seeking to adapt their facilities in order to process dirtier, higher-sulfur crude oil feedstock (crude slates), including Canadian tar sands, among the dirtiest crudes on the planet; and
WHEREAS, On October 15, 2014, the BAAQMD Board of Directors approved Resolution No. 2014-07 directing staff to develop strategies to reduce emissions from petroleum refineries, including Regulation 12, Rule 16 (Rule 12-16) to set emissions thresholds; and

WHEREAS, A coalition of community, environment, labor and academic groups has submitted to BAAQMD the “Community-Worker Proposal” for Rule 12-16 to create enforceable numeric limits on refinery-wide emissions of greenhouse gas (GHG) and particulate matter air pollution that would not allow any further increase of emissions from the five Bay Area petroleum refineries; and

WHEREAS, In addition to considering the adoption of enforceable numeric emission limits, the BAAQMD Board of Directors is considering three other options for reducing combustion emissions from refineries: adopting a rule to require refineries to meet an emission efficiency target, employ Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) to reduce fuel usage, and implement a methane control strategy; and

WHEREAS, On June 15, the BAAQMD Board of Directors directed their staff to prepare Environmental Impact Reports on each of the four options; and

WHEREAS, Adoption of the Community-Worker proposal for BAAQMD Rule 12-16 will ensure that emissions limits will prohibit Bay Area refineries from processing dirtier crude slates, including Canadian tar sands, thereby reducing the harm to Bay Area residents from dangerous emissions and reducing the amount of harmful greenhouse gases that threaten to destroy the planetary climate upon which our species depends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby urges the BAAQMD staff to expedite environmental review of all four refinery emission reduction options for Rule 12-16, including the Community-Worker Alternative to adopt enforceable numeric emission limits; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the BAAQMD Board of Directors to adopt all four refinery emission reduction options in Rule 12-16, including the Community-Worker Alternative to adopt enforceable numeric emission limits to ensure the health and safety of both refinery workers and the greater community.
Resolution urging the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to adopt a version of Regulation 12, Rule 16, which includes all four proposed refinery emission reduction options, including the Community-Worker Alternative to adopt enforceable numeric emission limits to ensure the health and safety of both refinery workers and the greater community.

July 12, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

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

File No. 160757

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 7/12/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

7/22/16