

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
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July 29, 2026

John Arntz, Director of Elections
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Mr. Arntz:

Attached please find four (4) certified copies of the following Initiative Ordinance for the November 3, 2026, Election, as follows:

File No. 260692 [Initiative Ordinance - Business and Tax Regulations Code - Real Property Transfer Tax Foreclosure Exemption]

Motion ordering submitted to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2026, an Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to, beginning March 1, 2027, eliminate the real property transfer tax foreclosure exemption for the transfer of all properties other than the transfer of residential and mixed-use properties with fewer than five residential units, and to make other non-substantive clarifications to the real property transfer tax; and increasing the City's appropriations limit by the amount of real property transfer tax collected for four years from November 3, 2026.

The Board of Supervisors APPROVED the above listed Initiative Ordinance on July 28, 2026.

The electronic version of this Initiative Ordinance is being e-mailed to your office at publications@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,


+ Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

vy:
(Attachments)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

Submission of Measures: Initiative Ordinance

Initiative Ordinance - Business and Tax Regulations Code - Real Property Transfer Tax Foreclosure
Exemption (Unofficial Title of Measure)

1) ☒ Board of Supervisors

2) ☐ Tails

3) ☒ Legislative Digest

4) ELECTRONIC COPY OF TEXT

☒ EMAIL- publications@sfgov.org

5) Contact Person: Victor Young

Address: 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 554-7723

Date: July 29, 2026

Submitted:

Victor Young

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Victor Young", written over a horizontal line.

6) COPIES

☒ John Arntz- Director of Elections, in consultation with the City Attorney, shall forward the measure (within two working days after receipt of the petition) to departments that are effected by the measure.

☒ Publications

☒ Public- copy

☒ Office- original



City and County of San Francisco

Certified Copy

Motion

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

260692 [Initiative Ordinance - Business and Tax Regulations Code - Real Property
Transfer Tax Foreclosure Exemption]

Sponsors: Mahmood; Dorsey, Melgar, Chen, Wong, Walton and Mandelman

Motion ordering submitted to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2026, an Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to, beginning March 1, 2027, eliminate the real property transfer tax foreclosure exemption for the transfer of all properties other than the transfer of residential and mixed-use properties with fewer than five residential units, and to make other non-substantive clarifications to the real property transfer tax; and increasing the City's appropriations limit by the amount of real property transfer tax collected for four years from November 3, 2026.

7/28/2026 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Wong

Excused: 1 - Walton

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Motion is a full, true, and correct copy of the original thereof on file in this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City and County of San Francisco.

July 29, 2026

Date

Angela Calvillo

Clerk of the Board

[Initiative Ordinance - Business and Tax Regulations Code - Real Property Transfer Tax Foreclosure Exemption]

Motion ordering submitted to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2026, an Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to, beginning March 1, 2027, eliminate the real property transfer tax foreclosure exemption for the transfer of all properties other than the transfer of residential and mixed-use properties with fewer than five residential units, and to make other non-substantive clarifications to the real property transfer tax; and increasing the City's appropriations limit by the amount of real property transfer tax collected for four years from November 3, 2026.

MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby submits the following ordinance to the voters of the City and County of San Francisco, at an election to be held on November 3, 2026.

Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to, beginning March 1, 2027, eliminate the real property transfer tax foreclosure exemption for the transfer of all properties other than the transfer of residential and mixed-use properties with fewer than five residential units, and to make other non-substantive clarifications to the real property transfer tax; and increasing the City's appropriations limit by the amount of real property transfer tax collected for four years from November 3, 2026.

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

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

2 Section 1. Article 12-C of the Business and Tax Regulations Code is hereby amended
3 by revising Sections 1101, 1108.2, and 1111, to read as follows:
4

5 **SEC. 1101. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This Article 12-C shall be known as the "Real Property Transfer Tax Ordinance." ~~It is~~
7 ~~adopted pursuant to the authority contained in Part 6.7 (commencing with Section 11901) of Division 2~~
8 ~~of the Revenue and Taxation Code of the State of California.~~
9

10 **SEC. 1108.2. EXEMPTION; DEEDS IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE, ETC.**

11 (a) Any tax imposed pursuant to this ordinance Article 12-C shall not apply with respect
12 to any deed, instrument, or writing to a beneficiary or mortgagee, which is taken from the
13 mortgagor, trustor, or trustee, as a result of or in lieu of foreclosure of a qualified residential
14 property as defined in subsection (b), or of interests in a legal entity directly or indirectly owning a
15 qualified residential property, to the extent of any transfer tax otherwise due with respect to such
16 qualified residential property; provided, that such tax shall apply to the extent that the
17 consideration or value for the transfer of a qualified residential property, or the fair market value of
18 the qualified residential property that experienced a change of ownership under California Revenue
19 and Taxation Code Section 64 for the transfer of interests in a legal entity directly or indirectly owning
20 a qualified residential property, exceeds the unpaid debt, including accrued interest and cost of
21 foreclosure. Consideration, value, or fair market value, as applicable; the unpaid debt amount;
22 and identification of grantee as beneficiary or mortgagee shall be noted on said deed,
23 instrument or writing or stated in an affidavit for tax purposes.

24 (b) For purposes of subsection (a), a "qualified residential property" means a single-family
25 residence, condominium, cooperative unit, single live/work unit, multifamily residential property with

1 fewer than five residential units, or mixed-use property with fewer than five residential units and only a
2 single floor of non-residential space. A qualified residential property shall not include a property with
3 a unit or units designed for occupancy primarily by travelers, vacationers, or other transient
4 occupants.

5 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article 12-C, the tax imposed with respect to
6 any deed, instrument or writing to a beneficiary or mortgagee, which is taken from the mortgagor,
7 trustor, or trustee, as a result of or in lieu of foreclosure, if such transfer is not subject to the exemption
8 in subsection (a), shall be based on the fair market value of the interest or property conveyed (not
9 excluding the value of any lien or encumbrances remaining thereon at the time of sale), or the fair
10 market value of all real property that experienced a change in ownership under California Revenue
11 and Taxation Code Section 64 as a result of the transfer, as applicable, and shall not be based on
12 consideration.

13
14 **SEC. 1111. RECORDING PAYMENT OF TAX; DEPOSIT OF TAX TO GENERAL FUND.**

15 (a) Except as provided in any ballot measure amending this Article 12-C that the voters
16 approve at the November 3, 2026 election, the tax this Article 12-C imposes is a general tax and t~~The~~
17 County Recorder shall collect the tax ~~hereby imposed~~ and deposit ~~it in the same to~~ the General
18 Fund to be expended for any City purpose. The County Recorder shall not record any deed,
19 instrument or writing subject to the tax imposed by this Article 12-C unless the tax is paid.

20 * * * *

21
22 Section 2. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the People of the City and
23 County of San Francisco intend to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs,
24 subsections, sections, articles, numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other
25 constituent parts of the Municipal Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions

1 or deletions, in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the
2 ordinance.

3
4 Section 3. Appropriations Limit Increase. Pursuant to California Constitution
5 Article XIII B and applicable laws, for four years from November 3, 2026, the appropriations
6 limit for the City shall be increased by the aggregate sum collected by the levy of the tax
7 under Article 12-C of the Business and Tax Regulations Code as amended by this ordinance
8 and any other ordinance amending Article 12-C of the Business and Tax Regulations Code
9 that the voters approve at the November 3, 2026 election.

10
11 Section 4. Effective Date; Operative Dates.

12 (a) Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective on the eleventh day after the
13 date the official vote count is declared by the Board of Supervisors.

14 (b) Operative Dates. The amendments to Section 1108.2 of Business and Tax
15 Regulations Code Article 12-C in this ordinance shall become operative on March 1, 2027,
16 and shall apply to transfers occurring on or after that date. The amendments to
17 Sections 1101 and 1111 of Business and Tax Regulations Code Article 12-C in this ordinance
18 are declaratory of existing law and shall become operative immediately upon the effective
19 date of this ordinance.

20 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

21 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

22
23 By: /s/ Carole F. Ruwart
24 CAROLE F. RUWART
Deputy City Attorney

25 4937-8206-9143, v. 19



City and County of San Francisco

Tails

Motion: M26-070

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 260692

Date Passed: July 28, 2026

Motion ordering submitted to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2026, an Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to, beginning March 1, 2027, eliminate the real property transfer tax foreclosure exemption for the transfer of all properties other than the transfer of residential and mixed-use properties with fewer than five residential units, and to make other non-substantive clarifications to the real property transfer tax; and increasing the City's appropriations limit by the amount of real property transfer tax collected for four years from November 3, 2026.

July 15, 2026 Budget and Finance Committee - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

July 15, 2026 Budget and Finance Committee - CONTINUED AS AMENDED

July 22, 2026 Budget and Finance Committee - RECOMMENDED

July 28, 2026 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Wong
Excused: 1 - Walton

File No. 260692

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 7/28/2026 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

f Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board