

1 [Urging the End of the Use of the “R” Word]

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3 **Resolution supporting the elimination of the derogatory use of the “R” word from**
4 **everyday speech, and promoting the acceptance and inclusion of people with**
5 **intellectual disabilities.**

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7 WHEREAS, Spread the Word to End the Word is an ongoing effort to raise the
8 consciousness of society about the dehumanizing and hurtful effects of the word “retard(ed)”
9 and encourage people to pledge to stop using the R-word; and

10 WHEREAS, Spread the Word to End the Word was created in 2009 at the Special
11 Olympics World Winter Games by youth with and without intellectual disabilities; and

12 WHEREAS, Spread the Word to End the Word holds its' annual day of awareness on
13 the first Wednesday of every March; and

14 WHEREAS, On March 1, 2017 the San Francisco Unified School District’s special
15 education transition program AccessSFUSD: The Arc, students, and community members
16 held powerful rally at City Hall commemorating the campaign to end the word; and

17 WHEREAS, The motivation for the campaign was driven by a united passion to
18 promote the positive contributions people with intellectual disabilities make to communities
19 around the world combined with a simple call to action—a pledge to stop using a word—that
20 also symbolizes positive attitude change and a commitment to make the world a more
21 accepting place for all people; and

22 WHEREAS, Respectful and inclusive language is essential to the movement for the
23 dignity and humanity of people with intellectual disabilities; and

24 WHEREAS, Much of society does not recognize the hurtful, dehumanizing and
25 exclusive effects of the word “retard(ed);” and

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WHEREAS, It is time to address the minority slur “retard(ed)” and raise the consciousness of society to its hurtful effects; and

WHEREAS, Language is powerful and especially in a time where divisive language is being used to scapegoat and isolate communities; and

WHEREAS, It is critical that we take responsibility for the impact of our words and help create communities of inclusion and acceptance for all people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby pledge to support the elimination of the derogatory use of the r-word from everyday speech and promote the acceptance and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies this resolution be sent to the Superintendent of SFUSD and the Board of Education Commissioners.



City and County of San Francisco

Tails
Resolution

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

File Number: 170247

Date Passed: March 14, 2017

Resolution supporting the elimination of the derogatory use of the "R" word from everyday speech, and promoting the acceptance and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

March 14, 2017 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

File No. 170247

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/14/2017 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

[Signature]
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned
Mayor

3/24/2017
Date Approved

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.

[Signature]
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

3/24/2017
Date