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**SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTIAL RENT STABILIZATION AND
ARBITRATION BOARD (RENT BOARD) COMMISSION
RESOLUTION ON
RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) published a report in 2007, *Discrimination by Omission: Issues of Concern for Native Americans in San Francisco*, detailing the ways in which Native American communities experience systemic erasure and exclusion in San Francisco and identifying numerous recommendations for improved outcomes, a process which was guided by members of Native American communities, including the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Residential Rent Arbitration and Stabilization Board (Rent Board) joins with HRC in acknowledging that the Ramaytush Ohlone are the original peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging that the area comprising the City and County of San Francisco was originally inhabited by the Yelamu, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging that the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone has actively worked to research, expand public awareness of, and preserve Ohlone history and culture; and

WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging that the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples have survived the brutalities of colonialism, enslavement, genocide, discrimination, racism, gender-based violence, theft, forced assimilation, and other atrocities driven by local, federal, and global governments; and

WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging that Ramaytush Ohlone peoples are not a mythical population of the past, but an integral and active community in the present San Francisco Bay Area region, and beyond, whose ongoing exclusion and invisibility threaten the greater Native American community's inclusion and respect in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging that the City and County of San Francisco was founded on unceded territory, and continues to participate in the erasure and exclusion of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

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WHEREAS, The Rent Board joins with HRC in acknowledging the truth of a land's history is a human right and demonstration of honor and respect for the contributions and sacrifices of the ancestors that inhabited and cared for this land before us; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors, HRC, and the Office of Racial Equity (ORE) have urged all boards and commissions in the City and County of San Francisco to begin each meeting with the below land acknowledgment, which was written and approved by the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, From this date forward, the Rent Board will join the Board of Supervisors, HRC, and other Commissions in stating the following land acknowledgement at the beginning of each Rent Board meeting:

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As Guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders and Relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, this land acknowledgement is a first step needed in acknowledging and honoring the land, culture, and contributions of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples throughout the San Francisco Bay Area; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be adopted and copies of it be submitted to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, HRC and ORE.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Residential Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Rent Board Commission adopted the foregoing resolution at its March 16, 2021 meeting.

Christina A. Varner

Christina Varner
Rent Board Commission Secretary