



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
DIRECTOR KATY TANG

June 27, 2023

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
City Hall Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE: BOS File No. 230664 – Waiver of Permit, License, and Business Registration Fees for Certain Small Businesses - SUPPORT

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On June 26, 2023 the Small Business Commission (the Commission) heard BOS File 230664 – Waiver of Permit, License, and Business Registration Fees for Certain Small Businesses. The ordinance would extend the City's First Year Free Program for an additional five years.

Since its creation, over 4,000 new or expanding businesses have benefited from First Year Free, waiving over \$1.4 million in permit fees. Startup costs, including permit fees, are particularly challenging for new businesses that are not yet revenue producing. The First Year Free program provides financial relief during that initial, critical phase.

The Commission voted unanimously to support this legislation. Small businesses are crucial to the City's economic recovery and growth, and this ordinance supports new and expanding businesses as they fill commercial vacancies, create employment opportunities, and generate foot traffic in commercial corridors.

The Commission commends Mayor Breed and Supervisor Ronen for their ongoing support for this valuable program, and thanks the Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector for administering First Year Free. Thank you for considering the Commission's recommendations. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katy Tang".

Katy Tang
Director, Office of Small Business