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Resolution in Support of AB 392

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Whereas, AB 392, co-authored by Assemblymembers Dr. Shirley Weber, D-San Diego and Kevin McCarty, D-Sacramento, would allow police to use deadly force only when “necessary” to prevent imminent and serious injury or death as opposed to when “reasonable;” and

Whereas, AB 392 would change the standard of using deadly force from reasonable to necessary, and would also require officers to exhaust alternative methods before resorting to deadly force; and

Whereas, co-authors and supporters believe AB 392 would reduce the use of deadly force by peace officers and improve relations between the officers and members of the community, especially communities of color; and

Whereas, peace officers in California kill more people than in any other state (in 2017, 172 people were killed and almost 400 were seriously wounded) AB 392 would redefine circumstances under which a homicide by a peace officer is deemed justifiable; and

Whereas, co-authors and supporters believe AB 392 will save lives by changing the culture and training of peace officers in California; and

Whereas, on a daily basis the print and electronic media report the use of deadly force by peace officers under unjustifiable or questionable circumstances, especially of unarmed men and women of color; and

Whereas, just and humane laws complement efforts to improve communication and encourage mutual respect between officers and the communities they patrol, and officer-community cooperation not only helps to advance social and economic justice but is also an effective way to promote public safety and reduce crime;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council stands with the California Federation of Labor, the ACLU, and numerous other religious, community, and civil rights organizations in support of this important and much-needed legislation.

Adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on July 8, 2019.