

1 [Commendation-San Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for Women.]

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3 **Resolution commending the San Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for**  
4 **Women for its continued efforts to empower women and its continued vigilance to**  
5 **attempts by others to limit the reproductive choice of women.**

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7 WHEREAS, Between 1982 and 2000, California led the nation in arson and bombings  
8 at abortion clinics, with 30 incidents out of a total of 224 reported nationwide; and

9 WHEREAS, In October of 2001, the California State Senate passed legislation meant  
10 to ensure freedom of access to clinic entrances, also known as the California Freedom of  
11 Access to Clinic Entrances (“FACE”) act; and,

12 WHEREAS, The California FACE act, which was sponsored by Senator Deborah Ortiz,  
13 allows California to be among some 14 states and the District of Colombia to enact clinic  
14 protection acts of varying degrees of protections, including the protection of abortion clinic  
15 entrances and its medical staff, clerical staff, clinic defenders, patients’ escorts and friends;  
16 and,

17 WHEREAS, The California FACE act requires the state Attorney General, assuming  
18 adequate funding, to collect and analyze the data about crimes related to reproductive rights,  
19 report the results to local law enforcement and the legislature, and to adopt a plan for  
20 investigation and prosecution of reproductive rights crimes; and,

21 WHEREAS, Over the years, opponents to abortion have caused physical harm,  
22 sometimes even fatal harm, to abortion provider clinics and doctors through such acts as  
23 clinic bombings and homicide of doctors; and,

24 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for Women  
25 (“SFNOW”) purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream

1 of American society now, so that they may exercise all the privileges and responsibilities and  
2 to end discrimination against women in all forms; and,

3 WHEREAS, The six priority issues for SFNOW are Lesbian rights, Reproductive rights,  
4 Violence against women, Women in prisons, and Actions for other issues; and,

5 WHEREAS, Reproductive rights for women are under renewed attack each year as  
6 anti-choice forces continually seek to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, in order to prohibit abortion  
7 surgical procedures and prevent access to clinics that perform abortions; and,

8 WHEREAS, Availability of access to abortion services in some states has decreased  
9 alarmingly; and according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, 84% of U. S. counties have no  
10 abortion provider; and

11 WHEREAS, Even in San Francisco, anti-choice extremists picket the Pregnancy  
12 Consultation Center every Saturday, whereby impeding clients from entering the clinic and  
13 often emotionally traumatizing the women with their deceptive rhetoric; and,

14 WHEREAS, SFNOW addresses various political issues through task forces and its  
15 Reproductive Rights Task Force, in coalition with several Bay Area groups, provides escort  
16 services to clients each Saturday morning; and,

17 WHEREAS, Abortion continues to be a legal health care option for women in the  
18 United States; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors are  
20 hereby committed to making health care for women more widely and safely accessible; and,  
21 be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors does hereby commend the San  
23 Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for Women for its continued efforts to  
24 empower women and its continued vigilance to attempts by others to limit the reproductive  
25 choice of women.