

1 [Resolution urging Congress to retain funding for housing programs in the 2006 Department of  
2 Housing and Urban Development budget.]

3 **Resolution expressing grave concern about President George W. Bush's proposed**  
4 **budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development for fiscal year 2006 and**  
5 **urging Congress to retain funding for programs related to the development and**  
6 **preservation of affordable housing.**  
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8 WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco has one of the nation's most  
9 expensive and competitive housing markets; and,

10 WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco's land supply is limited and almost  
11 completely developed; and,

12 WHEREAS, the City's population continues to increase, and the demand for housing  
13 continues to outpace supply; and,

14 WHEREAS, over three-quarters of the City's housing was built over 50 years ago, and  
15 requires significant rehabilitation to maintain its habitability; and,

16 WHEREAS, over three-quarters of the City's housing units contain lead-based paint  
17 which create lead-poisoning hazards; and,

18 WHEREAS, economic, physical, and social conditions in the City have caused many  
19 San Franciscans to live in overcrowded households, to pay large portions of their incomes  
20 towards housing costs, to live in substandard dwelling units or to become homeless;  
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22 WHEREAS, the City's population of elderly and disabled persons on fixed incomes  
23 continues to grow, and the need for affordable, supportive housing for these populations is not  
24 adequately met; and,  
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1           WHEREAS, President Bush has proposed to reduce the budget of the Department of  
2 Housing and Urban Development 11.5 percent in the coming fiscal year; and,

3           WHEREAS, the proposed budget calls for the elimination of the 30-year-old  
4 Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) program, which has been vital to creating  
5 affordable housing and improving communities across the country and provides over \$25  
6 million to San Francisco and supports the work of 120 community-based organizations; and,

7           WHEREAS, the proposed budget calls for the elimination of the HOPE VI program,  
8 which has helped to rebuild several distressed public housing developments in San Francisco  
9 and across the country; and,

10           WHEREAS, the proposed budget decreases the amount of money provided to each  
11 low-income tenant under the Section 8 program, which would reduce Section 8 funding to San  
12 Francisco by \$5.7 million and force the city's poorest tenants to pay higher rents or be  
13 displaced; and

14           WHEREAS, despite the fact that communities across the nation currently require \$21  
15 billion in public housing modernization projects, the President's budget calls for a reduction of  
16 \$273 million in the Public Housing Capital Fund; and,

17           WHEREAS, the proposed budget calls for a reduction of 50 percent of funds for  
18 housing for persons with disabilities and eliminates funds for the construction of new housing  
19 units for this population; and,

20           WHEREAS, cuts in the proposed federal budget would dramatically impair the City and  
21 County's ability to meet the housing needs of its low-income citizens; now, therefore, be it  
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RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco expresses grave concern about President Bush’s proposed budget for HUD and urges the United States Congress to retain funding for important housing programs currently administered by this Department; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County urges the Congress to work with President Bush to prioritize the need for affordable housing in the proposed federal budget for Fiscal Year 2006 and to increase funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to better address this need.