

1 [Urging FCC Commissioners to attend a public hearing in San Francisco in April 2003]

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3 **Resolution urging the Commissioners of the Federal Communication Commission and**
4 **Congress members from the Bay Area to attend a public hearing in San Francisco this**
5 **spring to gather public input on the upcoming changes in rules regarding media**
6 **ownership by large corporations.**
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8 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission is currently considering an
9 unprecedented rollback of media ownership regulations which protect competition, content
10 diversity and local accountability in our media; and

11 WHEREAS, The elimination or weakening of these regulations would worsen the
12 effects of media industry consolidation to date, as ownership deregulation will reduce
13 competition, local accountability, diversity of content and voices, and the amount and quality
14 of news coverage in broadcast and print media across the country, while providing windfall
15 profits for a small handful of corporations; and,

16 WHEREAS, The public interest is best served by the availability of a broadly diverse
17 range of viewpoints; and,

18 WHEREAS, Media diversity is seriously threatened by further consolidation of media
19 ownership in an already highly concentrated market; and,

20 WHEREAS, Deregulation of radio ownership rules under the Telecommunications
21 Act of 1996 caused unprecedented consolidation of ownership, dramatically decreasing
22 competition and damaging local accountability and content diversity, by shifting control and
23 resources away from local programmers and towards central managers, which has led to
24 reductions in local news and public affairs programming, and reduced access to the airwaves
25 for community groups, local musicians, and public officials; and,

1 WHEREAS, It is of the utmost importance that members of the Bay Area interested in
 2 this issue are given the opportunity to give their recommendations to the FCC;now, therefore,
 3 be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
 5 hereby urges the Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission and members
 6 of Congress from the Bay Area attend a public hearing in San Francisco this Spring to gather
 7 public input on this important issue.

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