

1 [Save Candlestick State Recreation Area]

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3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to keep Candlestick State**  
4 **Recreation Area in the City of San Francisco open and allocate additional funding for**  
5 **the park to fulfill the general plan.**

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7 WHEREAS, Candlestick State Park is a valuable environmental and recreational  
8 community resource serving all of California and the Bayview-Hunter’s Point high-need  
9 community;

10 WHEREAS, Southeast San Francisco has insufficient access to open space and  
11 coastal resources, and Candlestick State Recreation Area offers one of the few places where  
12 San Francisco families can enjoy the bay's shoreline;

13 WHEREAS, The Candlestick State Recreation Area is San Francisco’s only state park  
14 and was California’s first urban state park;

15 WHEREAS, Annually, over 120,000 visitors take advantage of the myriad low-cost  
16 opportunities for recreation, education, fitness and other outdoor pursuits in Candlestick State  
17 Recreation Area;

18 WHEREAS, The Bayview—Hunters Point neighborhood has suffered decades of harm  
19 from pollution, neglect and poverty, and this shoreline park offers irreplaceable benefits to  
20 public and environmental health, community education and recreation;

21 WHEREAS, Candlestick Point State Recreation Area generates more than \$650,000  
22 annually in revenue benefiting the entire State Park System;

23 WHEREAS, The California State Parks Foundation has raised over \$14 million for the  
24 ecological restoration of the largest contiguous wetland habitat in San Francisco, of adjacent  
25 Yosemite Slough located at the northern end of the park;

\*\*Supervisor Maxwell \*\*

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1           WHEREAS, Closing Candlestick State Recreation Area could jeopardize the  
2 restoration of Yosemite Slough, thereby depriving future generations of connecting to an  
3 important piece of San Francisco natural history in their own backyard, and eliminating this  
4 critical opportunity to restore much needed wildlife habitat;

5           WHEREAS, the rare salt marsh habitat at Candlestick Point is one of only two  
6 locations in San Francisco that harbor the Sandhill Skipper and Western Pygmy Blue  
7 butterflies, the latter being the smallest butterfly in North America;

8           WHEREAS, State parks are an important economic engine to the local communities in  
9 which they are located and studies have shown that every \$1 invested in the state park  
10 system returns \$2.35 to the state's General Fund, largely in the form of economic activity in  
11 local economies;

12           WHEREAS, The Governor's 2008-09 State Budget proposes an unprecedented  
13 closing of 48 state parks and drastic lifeguard reductions on 16 popular state beaches;

14           WHEREAS, Such a proposal creates considerable harm for the local community  
15 businesses that rely on tourism from Candlestick State Recreation Area ;

16           WHEREAS, Closing Candlestick State Recreation will reduce revenues for local  
17 businesses and will result in overall losses in local fees and taxes, thereby eroding financial  
18 savings envisioned by the closures;

19           WHEREAS, the many economic, environmental and health benefits of Candlestick  
20 State Recreation Area are so significant, the State should provide additional funding beyond  
21 the current annual budget in order to fund the unrealized General Plan that was approved in  
22 1987 after much community participation;

23           WHEREAS, Closure of Candlestick State Park will jeopardize Californians' access to  
24 treasures that were specifically set aside to be experienced by the public;

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\*\*Supervisor Maxwell \*\*

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1           WHEREAS, The funding required to keep state parks open and restore lifeguards on  
2 state beaches represents a mere fraction (0.00006 percent) of the entire budget proposed by  
3 the Governor;

4           THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby  
5 supports the Save Candlestick State Recreation Area Campaign and Save Our State Parks  
6 Campaign and urges the Legislature to reject Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to close  
7 Candlestick State Recreation Area and urges the State Legislature to allocate additional  
8 funding for Candlestick State Park to complete the park's general plan to uphold the public's  
9 trust in protecting and preserving public access to the treasures in the state park system,.

10          Be IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Copies of this resolution will be transmitted to the Save  
11 Candlestick State Recreation Area Campaign, the Save Our State Parks Campaign, the  
12 Governor, and the state Legislature.

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