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COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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OTHER (Use back side if additional	space is needed)
Completed by: <u>Gail Johnson</u> Completed by:	Date12/1/11 Date

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document is in the file.

Resolution urging the United States government to reduce the military budget, end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and redirect the savings for domestic needs.

WHEREAS, Our nation faces its most severe economic crisis since the Great Depression; and

[Urging the United States Government to Reduce the Military Budget]

WHEREAS, Approximately 58 cents of every federal discretionary tax dollar in fiscal year 2011 is spent to pay for past, present, and future military expenditures; and

WHEREAS, Not including U.S. military forces presently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, our country maintains more than 255,000 troops stationed in 146 countries and a network of more than 865 bases in 63 countries, which together cost more than \$372 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, The Pentagon budget was \$297 billion when President Clinton left office but for the 2011 fiscal year is over \$700 billion, more than double, and military spending by other agencies such as the Veterans Administration, Department of Energy, the State Department, and interest on the war debt raises the total to almost \$1 trillion annually; and

WHEREAS, The total cost of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars to Americans is estimated at \$4 trillion, and taxpayers in deficit-plagued California have paid almost \$145.8 billion in federal taxes for war, and San Francisco taxpayers have paid approximately \$3.8 billion for these wars since 2001; and

WHEREAS, Over 4,470 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq (474 from California), over 1,770 U.S. troops have been killed in Afghanistan, and over 45,100 U.S. troops have been wounded in both conflicts according to the Department of Defense; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi and Afghan civilians have been killed in these wars and the ongoing wars pose great and unnecessary harm to the people of Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco faces falling federal and state support, causing cuts to the City's Adult Day Care Centers, Food Bank, City College, Public Schools, and Libraries, which threatens San Francisco's public workers, youth, students, elderly, and other vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers' 2009 survey of U.S. infrastructure (bridges, roads, sewage treatment, etc.) assigned poor grades to all categories: from C-plus to D-minus; and

WHEREAS, The June 2011 U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a resolution calling on the President and Congress to end the wars and reallocate the funds to meet vital domestic needs; and

WHEREAS, In July 2011, the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee in July 2011 unanimously passed a resolution urging Congress to pass HR780 to provide funds for operations of the Armed Forces in Afghanistan only for purposes of providing for the safe and orderly withdrawal of all U.S. Armed Forces from Afghanistan: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors finds that the Federal Government's current military budget diverts critical funding away from domestic needs and, in particular, is detrimental to the well-being of the citizens, residents, and taxpayers of San Francisco, and calls upon California's Congressional delegation to promote Federal legislative action to reduce the military budget significantly; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls upon California's Congressional delegation to promote Federal legislative action limiting any

subsequent Iraq and Afghanistan war appropriations to funding the rapid, safe, withdrawal of all U.S. troops, bases, and contractors from those countries; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports

Federal and California state legislative or executive action that would ensure adequate

funding for Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans, particularly those who have returned home

physically or mentally wounded, to ensure they receive health care, housing, jobs, education

and other support services; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls upon President Barack Obama and California's Congressional delegation to promote Federal executive or legislative action redirecting savings from reducing military expenditures towards domestic needs, creating jobs, and supporting non-military efforts by international organizations to rebuild Iraq and Afghanistan; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to President Barack Obama, the California Congressional delegation, the Governor of California, and the California State Legislature.