

1 [Reaffirming the importance of CEDAW and urging Senators Boxer and Feinstein to make
2 every effort to ensure Senate ratification of CEDAW.]

3 **Resolution reaffirming the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All**
4 **Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and urging Senators Boxer and**
5 **Feinstein to make every effort to ensure Senate ratification of CEDAW.**
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7 WHEREAS, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against
8 Women (CEDAW) is the most comprehensive international agreement on the basic human
9 rights of women; and

10 WHEREAS, CEDAW has improved the lives of women in ratifying nations by
11 overcoming barriers to women in the spheres of education, employment, health care, politics
12 and economics, among others; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States was a primary drafter of CEDAW in 1979; and

14 WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter signed the CEDAW Treaty in 1980; and

15 WHEREAS, CEDAW has languished in the United States Senate for more than twenty
16 years without being ratified; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States remains the only industrialized country that has not
18 ratified the Convention, while CEDAW has been ratified in 170 nations; and

19 WHEREAS, United States demands for an end to human rights abuses to women
20 elsewhere in the world ring false while the United States fails to demonstrate its own
21 commitment to women's rights by ratifying the Treaty it helped create; and

22 WHEREAS, San Francisco adopted CEDAW in 1998, thereby reflecting the City and
23 County's commitment to women's rights; and
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1 WHEREAS, San Francisco remains the only City and County to have fully translated
2 CEDAW into law in the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, the Senate is presently reconsidering the ratification of CEDAW, through
4 the able leadership of Senator Barbara Boxer and Senator Joe Biden in the Foreign Relations
5 Committee; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
7 reaffirm its commitment to the United States ratification of the Convention for the Elimination
8 of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
10 Francisco commend Senator Barbara Boxer for the leadership she has shown in championing
11 the ratification of CEDAW; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
13 Francisco urge Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein to make every effort to work towards the
14 ratification of CEDAW in the Senate, thereby restoring US credibility regarding women's
15 rights; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall send a copy
17 of this Resolution to Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.