

1 [Urging passage of SB987]
2 Urging the California legislature to pass Senate Bill 987 to
3 amend the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act and to
4 budget sufficient funds to ensure that state and local agencies
5 charged with implementing the provisions of the Dymally-Alatorre
6 Bilingual Services Act have the financial resources to do so.

7
8 WHEREAS, the State of California, recognizing that "the
9 effective maintenance and development of a free and democratic
10 society depends on the right and ability of its citizens and
11 residents to communicate with their government and the right and
12 ability of their government to communicate with them," first
13 enacted the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act in 1973;

14 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual
15 Services Act was to require government agencies to make their
16 services accessible to individuals who do not speak English
17 well; and,

18 WHEREAS, in the twenty-eight years of its existence, the
19 Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act has proven ineffective
20 because it lacks an enforcement mechanism and contains loopholes
21 allowing government agencies to avoid implementing their
22 language access responsibilities without any consequences; and,

23 WHEREAS, in November 1999, the State Bureau of Audits
24 ("State Auditor") released a report examining the implementation
25 of the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act and found that

Supervisors
Mark Leno, Gonzalez, Sandoval, Yee, Newsom

1 only 2 of the 10 agencies reviewed were aware of their
2 responsibility to translate materials, and only one agency
3 actually translated materials as required by the Act; and,

4 WHEREAS, the State Auditor found poor implementation of the
5 Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act by local governments;
6 and,

7 WHEREAS, state Senator Martha Escutia has introduced a
8 bill, Senate Bill 987, in the current legislative session, that
9 will amend the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act to
10 rectify many of the deficiencies in the current law as it
11 applies to state agencies; and,

12 WHEREAS, according to recent U.S. Census estimates, one out
13 of every four San Franciscans cannot speak English well; and,

14 WHEREAS, limited English proficient residents of San
15 Francisco will benefit greatly from an amended and effective
16 Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the
18 California Legislature to pass Senate Bill 987 to amend the
19 Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act to make it a more
20 effective law; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the
22 State of California to budget sufficient funds to ensure that
23 state and local agencies charged with implementing the
24 provisions of the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act have
25 the financial resources to do so.

Mark Leno

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 010414

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the California legislature to pass Senate Bill 987 to amend the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act and to budget sufficient funds to ensure that state and local agencies charged with implementing the provisions of the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act have the financial resources to do so.

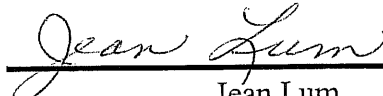
March 12, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 6 - Ammiano, Gonzalez, Leno, Maxwell, Newsom, Peskin

Absent: 5 - Daly, Hall, McGoldrick, Sandoval, Yee

File No. 010414

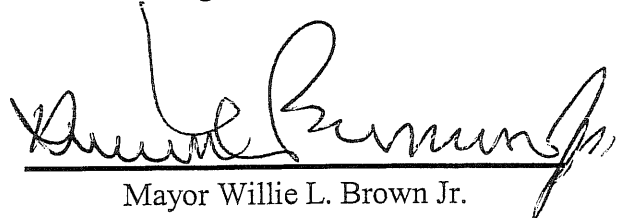
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 12, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Jean Lum
Acting Clerk of the Board

MAR 23 2001

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.