FILE NO. 991642

RESOLUTION NO. 824-99

[Sale of Chronicle]

URGING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO CLOSELY SCRUTINIZE THE MERGER FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE EFFECTS AND FURTHER URGING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE THAT ANY SALE OF THE EXAMINER BE PREMISED UPON THE BUYER PROVIDING COMPETITIVE DAILY CITY AND REGIONAL CIRCULATION AND FURTHER URGING THAT THE HEARST CORPORATION COMPLY WITH THE JOB RIGHTS, CLASSIFICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AND PROTECTIONS OF ALL CHRONICLE AND EXAMINER EMPLOYEES AND FURTHER URGING THE HEARST CORPORATION GIVE VOICE TO SAN FRANCISCO'S DIVERSE, VIBRANT, HIGHLY EDUCATED AND CIVICALLY AND COMMUNITY-ENGAGED POPULATION IN WAYS COMPARABLE TO THAT AFFORDED THE CITY BY THE TWO NEWSPAPERS AND FURTHER URGING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS IN SAN FRANCISCO ON THE IMPACT OF THE MERGER.

WHEREAS, The Hearst Corporation has announced that it plans to purchase the San Francisco Chronicle; and,

WHEREAS, The Hearst Corporation has announced that it will try to sell the Examiner or combine the Examiner with the existing Chronicle; and,

WHEREAS, The Chronicle circulation is 482,268 and it employs 375 people; and,
WHEREAS, The Examiner circulation is 114,776 and currently employs 217 people; and
WHEREAS, The acquisition of the Chronicle and the subsequent listing for the sale of the
Examiner means a possible loss of jobs for reporters, photographers and editors on the Examiner staff;

WHEREAS, The possibility of San Francisco becoming a one newspaper town threatens the diversity of opinion and viewpoint that San Francisco readers have come to expect; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the Justice Department to closely scrutinize the merger for anti-competitive effects; and, be it

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** 

Supervisor Yaki

and/or both utilities should a merger result; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the Justice Department to ensure that any sale of the Examiner be premised upon the buyer providing real, competitive daily city and regional circulation and be a requirement for the purchase of the Examiner; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the Justice Department to hold public hearings in San Francisco on the impact of the merger; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the Justice Department to require that, in the case of a merger between the two papers, the Hearst Corporation be ordered to observe the job rights, classifications, contracts, and protections of both Chronicle and Examiner employees; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges that the Hearst Corporation, in the case of a "merged newspaper," give voice to San Francisco's diverse, vibrant, highly educated, civically and community - engaged population in ways at least comparable to that afforded the City by the two newspapers.

---



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number:

991642

**Date Passed:** 

Resolution urging the Justice Department to closely scrutinize the merger for anti-competitive effects and further urging the Justice Department to ensure that any sale of the Examiner be premised upon the buyer providing competitive daily city and regional circulation and further urging that Hearst Corporation comply with the job rights, classifications, contracts, and protections of all Chronicle and Examiner employees and further urging the Hearst Corporation give voice to San Francisco's diverse, vibrant, highly educated and civically and community-engaged population in ways comparable to that afforded the city by the two newspapers and further urging the Justice Department to hold public hearings in San Francisco on the impact of the merger.

August 23, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Leno, Newsom, Teng,

Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Kaufman

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on August 23, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young

Clerk of the Board

SEP - 3 1999

**Date Approved** 

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.