

File No. 201202

Committee Item No. _____

Board Item No. 36

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: _____

Date: _____

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: October 27, 2020

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OTHER

- House of Representatives Bill No. 1165 - 10/1/20
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Prepared by: Lisa Lew

Date: October 23, 2020

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

1 [Condemning Ongoing Attacks in the Artsakh Republic and Urging the United States to Broker
2 Cessation of Hostilities]

2

3 **Resolution condemning the hostile military attacks escalating the conflict between**
4 **Azerbaijan and Armenia; affirming support of House Resolution 1165, authored by**
5 **Congresswoman Jackie Speier; and urging the United States to help broker a peaceful**
6 **resolution and return to a ceasefire agreement.**

7

8 WHEREAS, Military clashes between the Azerbaijani and Armenian military forces
9 erupted in July 2020, and

10 WHEREAS, Beginning on September 27, 2020, the conflict was further escalated by a
11 full military operation launched by Azerbaijan in the Artsakh Republic, also known as the
12 Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, that included attacks of Armenian civilian settlements; and

13 WHEREAS, The Artsakh Republic has been home to the Armenian people, still having
14 preserved Armenian relics and cultural artifacts dating back two millennia; and

15 WHEREAS, The Artsakh Republic has developed democratic institutions, fostered a
16 pluralist political system, and, over the past quarter century, held parliamentary and
17 Presidential elections that have been rated as free and fair by international observers;

18 WHEREAS, The United States remains committed to the Organization for Security and
19 Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE) Minsk Group negotiations toward a durable and democratic
20 resolution of outstanding status and security issues related to the Artsakh Republic; and

21 WHEREAS, That United States considers any effort to determine the future of the
22 Artsakh Republic, formerly the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, by other than peaceful means,
23 including acts of aggression, blockades, or violence against civilians, a threat to peace; and

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1 WHEREAS, Peace, stability, and democracy in this region are essential to the political,
2 security, and economic interests of the United States and are matters of international concern;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The potential of a wider conflict in the region is destabilizing especially as
5 it can become a proxy war among other sovereign powers, including Turkey, Syria, Iran, and
6 Russia; and

7 WHEREAS, On October 1, 2020, Congressman Jackie Speier introduced a
8 bipartisan-supported House Resolution 1165 - Condemning Azerbaijan's military operation in
9 Nagorno-Karabakh and denouncing Turkish interference in the conflict; and

10 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to diverse communities, many of which have
11 survived war and destruction to find refuge and start new chapters in their lives; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco experienced the local impact of the conflict with the rise of
13 hate crimes against the Armenian community including destructive vandalism at the KZV
14 Armenian School on Brotherhood Way in July 2020, in addition to shots fired at the school in
15 September 2020; and an act of arson at the Armenian Community Cultural Center adjacent to
16 St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church in September 2020; and

17 WHEREAS, San Francisco historically stands for human rights and recognizes its role
18 as part the international community; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemns the escalation of
20 military operations in the Artsakh Republic and denounces interference by countries, such as
21 Turkey, that further exacerbate the crisis; and, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the United States Congress and
23 Federal Government to support brokering of a peaceful solution including an immediate
24 ceasefire; and, be it

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors affirms support for House
2 Resolution 1165; and

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
4 to remit copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State
5 of the United States, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of
6 Representative and the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and
7 the San Francisco Congressional Delegation.

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116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1165

Condemning Azerbaijan's military operation in Nagorno-Karabakh and
denouncing Turkish interference in the conflict.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 2020

Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COOPER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MENG, Mr. COX of California, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. NUNES, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Ms. PRESSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning Azerbaijan's military operation in Nagorno-Karabakh and denouncing Turkish interference in the conflict.

Whereas, beginning on September 27, 2020, Azerbaijan has engaged in the most significant military operation along the line of contact into Nagorno-Karabakh since the signing of the cease-fire agreement between Azerbaijan and Armenia in 1994;

Whereas this attack follows increasingly aggressive rhetoric and destabilizing actions on the part of Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev's government toward Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia, including a July 2020 Defense Ministry threat to bomb Armenia's Metsamor Nuclear Power Plant;

Whereas Azerbaijan's ongoing military offensive, which includes the shelling of Stepanakert, Nagorno-Karabakh's most densely populated city with a population of 55,200, has resulted in at least dozens of civilians killed and hundreds wounded and, as of September 30, 2020, the threat to civilians continues;

Whereas, as of September 30, 2020, the conflict has resulted in the deaths of at least 84 Nagorno-Karabakh servicemembers, and both Armenia and Azerbaijan have declared martial law, mobilized their Armed Forces, and called up Reserve Forces;

Whereas the Guardian reports that Azerbaijan's military actions in Nagorno-Karabakh may be part of a planned military operation;

Whereas the conflict follows joint military exercises conducted by Turkey and Azerbaijan in August 2020;

Whereas, according to multiple reports, including the Washington Post, Reuters, and the Guardian, in the weeks prior to Azerbaijan's military operation Turkey recruited mercenaries from Syria and, as of September 29, 2020, has facilitated their deployment to Azerbaijan;

Whereas the BBC, New York Times, and Washington Post have reported on the Armenian Foreign Ministry's claim that Turkey is operating F-16 fighter jets in the region and the claim that on September 29, 2020, Turkey shot

down an Armenian Su-25 fighter jet in Armenian airspace, killing the pilot;

Whereas the conflict has the potential to escalate into proxy warfare among regional powers, including Turkey, and to further entrench the conflict and threaten peace and stability in the region;

Whereas the United States serves as a co-chair of the Minsk Group along with France and Russia, and the co-chairs have urged a cease-fire and urged the parties to return to substantive negotiations as soon as possible; and

Whereas the European Union and the United Nations support a peaceful resolution and immediate cease-fire: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns Azerbaijan's continued aggressive
3 military operations in Nagorno-Karabakh and
4 breaches of the cease-fire agreement;

5 (2) denounces Turkey's reported participation
6 in and escalation of the conflict under President
7 Tayyip Erdoğan;

8 (3) supports an immediate return to the cease-
9 fire agreement along the line of contact between
10 Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and a peaceful
11 solution which protects all parties' human rights and
12 joins with other countries supporting the same goals;
13 and

14 (4) reaffirms United States support of the Or-
15 ganization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

1 Minsk Group efforts to secure an agreement from
2 Azerbaijan to cease offensive military operations
3 against Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia and to ac-
4 cept independent third-party monitoring along the
5 line of contact.

○

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Yee

Subject:

Condemning the Ongoing Attacks in the Artsakh Republic and Urging the United States to Broker Cessation of Hostilities

The text is listed:

Resolution condemning the hostile military attacks escalating the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia; affirming support of House Resolution 1165 (Speier); and urging the United States to help broker a peaceful resolution and return to a ceasefire agreement.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: /s/Norman Yee