

1 [Urging the U.S. Congress to Oppose War With Iraq]

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3 **Resolution urging the U.S. Congress to oppose military action in Iraq.**

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5 WHEREAS, The United States is one nation among a community of nations and has
6 agreed to certain conventions of international law including the United Nations Charter which
7 compels its members to “settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a
8 manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered;” and,

9 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Defense has estimated that over 100,000 Iraqis
10 and 269 Americans were killed in the 1991 Gulf War at a financial cost that exceeded \$61
11 billion, and this horrible cost is a testament to the gravity of the issue of another Iraqi war; and,

12 WHEREAS, The allegation that Iraq currently possesses weapons of mass destruction
13 has not been substantiated to the American people and there is no evidence that Iraq ever
14 targeted U.S. forces with chemical or biological weapons; and,

15 WHEREAS, When the U.S. ordered U.N. weapons inspectors out of Iraq in December
16 1998 in preparation for the bombing known as Operation Desert Fox, the U.N. team had
17 accounted for 90-95 percent of Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction capability and all factories
18 and means of production had been destroyed; and,

19 WHEREAS, Since chemical weapons have a shelf life of five years and biological
20 weapons have a shelf life of three years, it is unlikely that Gulf War era weapons of mass
21 destruction would be effective; and,

22 WHEREAS, The only way Iraq could possess these weapons today is if they have
23 rebuilt factories and begun production since December of 1998, and the Bush Administration
24 has not presented to the American people any evidence that Iraq currently is capable of

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1 producing weapons of mass destruction or that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein represents an
2 immediate threat to the United States; and,

3 WHEREAS, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, as a leader in the U.S. House of
4 Representatives, has reviewed the Administration's evidence regarding Iraqi possession of
5 weapons of mass destruction and has recently stated that "the cause for war that the
6 president has presented, that the Iraqis have some nuclear capability to strike the United
7 States, is not real. We have not seen the evidence for that... right now the cause of war that is
8 being put forth, honestly, is not documented;" and,

9 WHEREAS, The Iraqi government has indicated it will allow the resumption of U.N.
10 weapons inspections and the U.N. Security Council has yet to complete deliberations on a
11 resolution authorizing further action in Iraq; and,

12 WHEREAS, Any resolution in support of military action in Iraq by the U.S. Congress at
13 this time would be premature, based on speculation rather than fact, and absent of a
14 compelling reason to risk tens of thousands of human lives; and,

15 WHEREAS, An attack on Iraq, without exhausting all diplomatic avenues of resolution
16 and without the support of our allies in the Middle East, could further destabilize the very
17 volatile situation that now exists in the region, invite attacks upon Israeli and Palestinian
18 territories, and inspire further terrorist attacks in the United States; and,

19 WHEREAS, The U.S. and local economies, already weakened by Mid-East inspired
20 terror attacks, could face further decline with the subsequent increase in the price of crude oil
21 and a falling stock market brought on by a war with Iraq; ~~now, therefore, be it~~ and.

22 WHEREAS, Americans from across the country will assemble in Washington, D.C. and
23 San Francisco on October 26 to stop the war against Iraq; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco hereby urges the U.S.
25 Congress to oppose military action in Iraq until the latest Iraqi offer to permit weapons

1 inspections takes its course, the Bush Administration obtains the cooperation of key allies in
2 Europe and the Middle East, the U.N. Security Council authorizes military action under
3 international law, and until the Administration presents compelling evidence of an imminent
4 threat to the United States; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors requests that the Clerk of the
6 Board send copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, U.S. Senators Dianne
7 Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and U.S. Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Lynn Woolsey, and
8 Tom Lantos.

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