

1 [Urging 108th Congress to pass the Elder Justice Act: SB 333]
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3 **Resolution urging the 108th Congress to pass SB 333: Elder Justice Act to provide**
4 **coordination of differing federal, state, and local elder abuse programs to better**
5 **protect and serve our seniors.**
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7 WHEREAS, The problem of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation has long been
8 invisible and presents among the gravest issues facing millions of Americans; and
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10 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Adult Protective Services Unit of the Department of
11 Aging and Adult Services receives nearly 3,000 reports of abuse each year and furthermore,
12 studies indicate that only one in five incidents of abuse/neglect get reported; and,

13 WHEREAS, States and counties are currently fighting elder abuse with fragmented
14 systems and scarce resources with little federal support; and,

15 WHEREAS, the Elder Justice Act of 2003 would provide dedicated federal resources
16 to support state and county efforts to address elder abuse; and,

17 WHEREAS, From a social perspective, elder justice means assuring adequate public-
18 private infrastructure and resources to prevent, detect, treat, understand, intervene, and,
19 where appropriate, prosecute elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; and,

20 WHEREAS, From a personal perspective, elder justice is the right of every older
21 person to be free of abuse, neglect and exploitation; and,

22 WHEREAS, The Elder Justice Act will heighten the public's awareness of the need for
23 elder justice legislation; and,
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1 WHEREAS, Many national, state, and local groups, agencies and individuals who
2 serve elders have joined together to form an Elder Justice Coalition to support the Elder
3 Justice Act; and,

4 WHEREAS, On March 5, 2003, the San Francisco Aging and Adult Services
5 Commission joined the Elder Justice Coalition to support the proposed Elder Justice Act;
6 now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges
8 the members of the 108th Congress to pass the Elder Justice Act (SB 333) in its current
9 session thereby providing the much needed resources to protect our senior citizens.

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