

1 [Supporting Expansion of Boundaries - Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National
2 Marine Sanctuaries]

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4 **Resolution supporting House Resolution 192 and Senate Bill 179, which will expand**
5 **the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell**
6 **Bank National Marine Sanctuary.**

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8 WHEREAS, The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) was
9 established in 1981 and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (CBNMS) was
10 established in 1987 to protect the marine environment in general and the area's 26 species of
11 marine mammals and 13 species of breeding seabirds in particular; and,

12 WHEREAS, IN 2005, The Board of Supervisors unanimously supported H.R. 1712 and
13 S 880 pertaining to Gulf of the Farallones and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries,
14 enacted as Resolution 382-05, on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No.
15 050839, which is hereby declared to be a part of this resolution as if set forth fully herein; and,

16 WHEREAS, These marine environments have national and international significance,
17 exceed the biological productivity of tropical rain forests, support high levels of biological
18 diversity, and are easily susceptible to damage from human activities; and,

19 WHEREAS, The Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries
20 Boundary Modification and Protection Act as proposed in H.R. 192 and S. 179 (The Act)
21 neither places additional restrictions on the fishing community nor conflicts with existing, or
22 would affect, future regulation from the California Department of Fish and Game and,

23 WHEREAS, Such expansion does not interfere with vessel traffic lanes and will help
24 maintain important commercial and sport fishing enterprises as well as help to protect local
25 jobs, existing oyster operations and native fisheries; and,

1 WHEREAS, The Act both safeguards and enhances our extremely valuable tourism
2 industry and the vital ocean and fisheries research conducted by the University of California's
3 Bodega Marine Laboratory; and,

4 WHEREAS, The Act would extend these sanctuaries north and westward to protect the
5 Sonoma and southern Mendocino Coast's natural beauty and significant bio-diversity; and,

6 WHEREAS, Addition of these waters to the GFNMS and CBNMS will protect the
7 California Upwelling Ecosystem (CUE), one of only four major coastal upwelling systems on
8 Earth, the only such system in the United States; and,

9 WHEREAS, The CUE comprises only one percent of the ocean but produces 20
10 percent of the world's fish making the region one of the most important 'natural laboratories'
11 in the world; and,

12 WHEREAS, Scientific research is continually revealing the importance of coastal
13 estuaries as critical migration corridors for endangered salmon and steelhead trout, essential
14 haulouts for seals and sea lions, and prolific nurseries for hundreds, perhaps thousands, of
15 aquatic species; and,

16 WHEREAS, Changes in the Sanctuaries' boundaries are also needed to facilitate
17 boundary identification for mariners, fishers and law enforcement personnel and to promote
18 research in escarpment areas; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports the Gulf of the
20 Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and
21 Protection Act as proposed in House Resolution 192 (Woolsey) and Senate bill 179 (Boxer).

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