

1 [Condemning Texas State Senate Bill No. 147 (Kolkhorst) - Banning the Purchase of Real
2 Property by Immigrants]

3 **Resolution condemning Texas State Senate Bill No. 147 that prohibits immigrants from**
4 **owning Texas real estate.**

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6 WHEREAS, Texas State Senator Lois Kolkhorst introduced State Senate Bill 147 (SB
7 147) which as currently proposed, will prohibit, among other things, citizens of China, Iran,
8 North Korea, or Russia from owning real property located in the State of Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, SB 147, perhaps disguised as necessary for national security, is a racist
10 proposal that serves no legitimate state purpose; and

11 WHEREAS, SB 147 is at its core an Alien Land Law, which was deeply rooted in our dark
12 and ugly history of targeting and banning Asian Americans from owning real estate in
13 Washington, Oregon, and California, serving only to institutionalize racism and discriminatory
14 practices; and

15 WHEREAS, We have since then learned from this racist past and overturned Alien
16 Land Laws, including in California, when in 1952 the California Supreme Court ruled that
17 California’s 1920 Alien Land Law violated the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Alien Land Laws and other exclusionary policies have a harmful and
20 dehumanizing effect on immigrants, their families, and their communities and the
21 repercussions are still felt today; and

22 WHEREAS, Two similar Texas State Senate Bills 552 and 711 have been introduced,
23 and have the same effects of prohibiting “aliens and citizens” of China, Iran, North Korea, and
24 Russia from entering into a contract for agricultural land and acquiring title to real property;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, SB 147 prevents Asian and other immigrants from establishing roots in the
2 state, making investments in their communities, and pursuing the American Dream; and

3 WHEREAS, SB 147 will create unnecessary and undue burdens and expenses on
4 financial institutions, title insurance companies, professionals, and the real estate industry;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Alien Land Laws like SB 147 violate the Equal Protection Clause of the
7 United States Constitution and the Civil Rights Act; and

8 WHEREAS, there is broad community opposition to SB 147 including the Asian
9 American Bar Association of Houston (AABA Houston), the Austin Asian American Bar
10 Association (Austin AABA), and the Dallas Asian American Bar Association (DAABA), and the
11 National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA); now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
13 condemns SB 147 as a racist, unconstitutional measure and urges the Texas State
14 Legislature to withdraw SB 147; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
16 Francisco hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the
17 Texas State Senate and the Texas State Assembly as well as the Bill's primary sponsor; and,
18 be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
20 Francisco hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the
21 Governor of the State of California to send to the Governor of Texas.

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