

1 [Urging Permanent Halt to the Blue Angels Air Show from Flying over Populated Areas of San  
2 Francisco]

3 **Resolution urging a permanent halt to the annual Blue Angels air show from flying over**  
4 **populated areas of the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Pursuant to City and County of San Francisco Environmental Code,  
7 Section 101, all officers, boards, commissions and departments shall implement the  
8 Precautionary Principle in conducting the City and County affairs; and

9 WHEREAS, The Precautionary Principle requires public servants to take anticipatory  
10 action to prevent harm and through exploration and careful analysis select courses of action  
11 that present the least threat to all; and

12 WHEREAS, The Blue Angels is an elite Navy exhibition squadron that tours the United  
13 States to perform air shows, involving daredevil and tight flight maneuvers; and

14 WHEREAS, The Blue Angels air shows have not occurred without incident or loss of  
15 life; and

16 WHEREAS, Over the past 60 years, the Blue Angels air show has resulted in 27  
17 fatalities nationally, most recently on Thursday June 2, 2016, when a jet crashed in a  
18 residential area of Smyrna, Tennessee, killing pilot Marine Captain Jeff Kuss of a Blue Angels  
19 F/A-18 Hornet jet while practicing for a weekend air show, only hours after a jet from the  
20 nation’s other premier flight demonstration squadron, a Thunderbird F-16, crashed following a  
21 flyover at the U.S. Air Force Academy commencement ceremony attended by President  
22 Barack Obama; and

23 WHEREAS, There have been other examples of Blue Angels crashes in residential  
24 areas, including on April 21, 2007, in Beaufort County, South Carolina, when Blue Angel pilot  
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1 Lt. Cmdr. Kevin J. Davis crashed his plane into several neighborhood homes, killing himself  
2 and injuring eight people on the ground; and

3 WHEREAS, Each October, the Blue Angels performs an air show over the City of San  
4 Francisco as part of the Fleet Week; and

5 WHEREAS, Based on the recent history and the style of their performance in which the  
6 slightest error by a pilot or a mechanical malfunction has been known to have disastrous  
7 effects, the Blue Angels air show poses an unwarranted risk to life and property in the  
8 densely-populated, urban environment of San Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, The Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornet jets make a considerable amount of  
10 vibration and noise pollution with volume rising to levels that exceed legal limits for the civilian  
11 community that is magnified by San Francisco's high-rise buildings; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco is a Sanctuary City for many immigrants from war-torn  
13 countries and home to thousands of veterans of war who have experienced air bombardment  
14 and are at risk of being traumatized when the Blue Angels perform; and

15 WHEREAS, The jets can also disturb many small children, people with disabilities, pets  
16 and local wildlife: and, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
18 support the permanent halt to exhibition flyovers over the 47 square miles of the City by all  
19 military aircraft including the Blue Angels, allowing such craft to fly over the Bay and Ocean  
20 only; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors call on Senator Barbara Boxer,  
22 Senator Dianne Feinstein and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi to use all resources at their  
23 disposal to bring a permanent halt to exhibition flyovers by military aircraft over populated  
24 areas.

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