

1 [Angel Island Immigration Station Restoration and Preservation Act.]

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3 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Congressional delegation to support the Angel**
4 **Island Immigration Station Restoration and Preservation Act.**

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6 WHEREAS, The Angel Island Immigration Station Restoration and Preservation Act,
7 authored by Representative Lynn Woolsey, H.R. 4469 would authorize federal support for
8 ongoing efforts to restore the Angel Island Immigration Station, a site that is very important to
9 the history of the nation’s Asian American and immigrant communities; and,

10 WHEREAS, Most people consider Angel Island the “Ellis Island of the West” because
11 more than one million immigrants entered and exited the United States through the
12 Immigration Station between 1910 and 1940; and,

13 WHEREAS, Many of these immigrants came from Asia and suffered great challenges
14 to become American citizens; and,

15 WHEREAS, Despite being a National Historic Landmark and one of America’s Most
16 Endangered Historic Places, this site has not received the same support and treatment as its
17 better known counterpart, Ellis Island; and,

18 WHEREAS, The Angel Island Immigration Station played such a significant role in the
19 immigration history for California and the nation that the California Legislature approved
20 \$400,000 for historic and preservation studies for the site in 1999, and California voters
21 showed their support for the project by approving a ballot initiative and \$15 million for its
22 preservation, yet estimates for the completion of the restoration are at more than \$45 million;
23 and,

24 WHEREAS, The historical significance of the Immigration Station belongs not only to
25 California, but also to the nation and while the State of California has already committed

1 substantial resources toward the site's restoration it is time for the Federal government to do
2 its' part; and,

3 WHEREAS, The Immigration Station is situated in a California state park, authorizing
4 legislation is necessary to permit the use of Federal funds for its preservation and restoration
5 work; and,

6 WHEREAS, The Angel Island Immigration Station Restoration and Preservation Act
7 would do this by identifying an appropriation and an important use of federal funds; and,

8 WHEREAS, While the Act would not actually allocate any dollars, it is a necessary
9 precursor to the allocation of federal funding; and,

10 WHEREAS, The Angel Island Immigration Station is a pivotal historical landmark for
11 learning about the Asian American immigrant experience; and,

12 WHEREAS, The Federal government has a responsibility to help ensure that the
13 legacy of the Immigration Station on Angel Island is preserved for generations to come; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 urge the San Francisco congressional delegation to support the Angel Island Immigration
17 Station Restoration and Preservation Act.

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