

1 [Urging the United States Department of State to Condemn the Government of Iran for
2 Sentencing Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani to Death by Stoning]

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4 **Resolution urging the United States Department of State to condemn the Government**
5 **of Iran under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for sentencing Sakineh**
6 **Mohammadi Ashtiani to death by stoning for the crime of “adultery while being**
7 **married.”**

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9 WHEREAS, In 2006, Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, a mother of two, and a citizen of
10 Iran, was convicted in an Iranian court of the crime of “adultery while being married” and
11 sentenced to death by stoning; and

12 WHEREAS, The lawyer for Ms. Ashtiani reported that she had already received 99
13 lashes in a separate punishment after a British newspaper ran a picture of an unveiled woman
14 mistakenly identified as Ms. Ashtiani; and

15 WHEREAS, Execution by stoning in Islam entails burying people up to their chest and
16 then pelting them with stones large enough to inflict tissue damage but not large enough to kill
17 instantly; and

18 WHEREAS, The person so executed is in effect tortured to death in a public display;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the
21 United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, declares that “No one shall be
22 subjected to torture or to cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment;” and

23 WHEREAS, Torture with the intention of death stands clearly against Article 5 of the
24 Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

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1 WHEREAS, Women in Iran have no rights to divorce or custody rights of children over
2 seven years of age; and

3 WHEREAS, A woman in Iran is considered to have committed a crime, punishable by
4 death, if she chooses to look for sexual satisfaction outside of an unhappy marriage; and

5 WHEREAS, The United Nations Human Rights Committee has made clear that treating
6 adultery and fornication as criminal offenses does not comply with international human rights
7 standards; and

8 WHEREAS, Iran is a member of the International Covenant on Civil and Political
9 Rights, which has officially called for the banning of stoning and other cruel and inhumane
10 methods of execution; and

11 WHEREAS, On September 8, 2010, the European Parliament passed a resolution
12 condemning the Iranian government for the stoning sentence, stating that punishment by
13 stoning is “barbaric” and “can never be justified or accepted;” and

14 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco has
15 expressed its opposition to the death penalty repeatedly, including endorsing a moratorium on
16 executions in the United States in Resolution 632-00 and a moratorium on executions in
17 California in Resolution No. 116-00; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
19 urges the United States Department of State to issue strong condemnations against the
20 Islamic Republic of Iran and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for the practice of
21 execution by means of torture, for human rights abuses against women, and for unequal and
22 inhumane treatment of women under the law of the state; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns the criminalization of
24 private, adult consensual sexual relations.

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