

1 [Urging Mexico's Federal Electoral Tribunal to Order a Ballot by Ballot Recount]

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3 **Resolution urging the Mexican Federal Electoral Tribunal to order a ballot by ballot**
4 **recount of votes in the presidential race.**
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6 WHEREAS, On July 2, 2006, Mexico held a national election to choose its next
7 president; and

8 WHEREAS, On July 4, 2006, Mexico's Federal Election Institute announced that
9 candidate Felipe Calderon had a nearly 500,000 vote lead over candidate Andres Manuel
10 Lopez Obrador; and

11 WHEREAS, This announcement resulted in an immediate challenge by Lopez Obrador
12 who argued that over 3 million ballots or 8% of the total vote, had not been counted; and,

13 WHEREAS, On July 5, 2006, Mexico's Federal Election Institute acknowledged that,
14 contrary to its prior assertions, over three million ballots had not been counted and began
15 counting them; and

16 WHEREAS, On July 6, 2006, the New York Times sampled six precincts, and found
17 that all had miscounted their totals in favor of Calderon and to the detriment of Lopez
18 Obrador; and

19 WHEREAS, On July 6, 2006, Mexico's Federal Election Institute declared Calderon the
20 winner by 236,000 votes out of 41 million cast; and

21 WHEREAS, Over the past week, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and
22 Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now have covered numerous charges of electoral fraud from
23 observers and the Lopez Obrador campaign which has cited irregularities in over 40,000 of
24 Mexico's 130,000 polling sites and has received numerous videos of electoral fraud, including
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1 videos showing ballot box stuffing in the state of Guanajuato and an election official in the state
2 of Queretaro refusing to recount a ballot box that was later shown to have discrepancies in
3 favor of Calderon; and

4 WHEREAS, In order to ensure fairness of the election, a ballot by ballot recount is
5 essential without which the country's democratic process will be at risk; and

6 WHEREAS, On July 7, 2006 *The New York Times* editorialized on the election saying,
7 "there are enough problems to warrant a complete recount" and suggesting that Mexico's
8 Federal Electoral Tribunal, an independent panel, order a recount as it has done for recent
9 elections in the Mexico states of Tabasco and Colima; and

10 WHEREAS, With thousands of Mexican immigrants people of Mexican descent and
11 with the City and State's economy closely linked to Mexico, San Francisco has a strong
12 interest in the survival of Mexico's democratic system; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby urges Mexico's Federal
14 Electoral Tribunal to order an immediate ballot by ballot recount of votes in the presidential
15 election.

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