

1 [Urging California Legislature to draft and pass a bill concerning exposure to depleted
2 uranium by members of the armed forces]

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4 **Resolution urging California Legislature to draft and pass a bill concerning exposure**
5 **to depleted uranium by members of the armed forces who return to California after**
6 **service in the military.**

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8 WHEREAS, Depleted uranium (DU) is a by-product from the process that enriches
9 natural uranium ore for use as fuel in nuclear reactors and nuclear weapons. It is highly
10 dense, radioactive, and a heavy metal with both offensive and defensive military applications;
11 and,

12 WHEREAS, Vast amounts of DU-tipped armaments and armor have been used by
13 U.S. and allied forces in both Gulf wars and in the Balkans, including 127 tons of DU shells
14 used in Iraq in 2004 alone; and,

15 WHEREAS, DU penetrator fragments and jackets/casings can be found lying on the
16 surface, buried within shallow ground around targeted areas, and in areas where tanks came
17 into combat; and,

18 WHEREAS, Health effects depend on the route and magnitude of exposure (ingestion,
19 inhalation, skin contact or wounds), and the characteristics of the DU (such as particle size,
20 chemical form, and solubility); and,

21 WHEREAS, DU munitions vaporize on contact and generate contaminated dust which
22 is easily inhaled into the lungs; and,

23 WHEREAS, A German study (2002) indicated that DU molecules can travel to different
24 parts of the body, including sperm and eggs damaging genes and increasing the risk of
25 cancer; and,

1 WHEREAS, Members of Congress Jim McDermott D-WA and Jose Serrano D-NY
2 have introduced bills (H.R. 1483 and H.R. 202 respectively) calling for study of DU's long-term
3 impact and medical treatment for those who have been exposed; and,

4 WHEREAS, The Louisiana House of Representatives became the first legislative body
5 in the nation to acknowledge the effects of DU when it passed a bill (H.B. 570) in May, 2005,
6 that guarantees DU testing for war veterans as a medical benefit; and,

7 WHEREAS, While some testing for DU exposure of soldiers has been done, the
8 government has denied testing to many veterans who believe they were exposed to DU; now
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California
11 Legislature to draft and pass a bill concerning exposure to depleted uranium by members of
12 the armed forces who return to California after service in the military.

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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
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Tails
Resolution

File Number: 051176

Date Passed:

Resolution urging California Legislature to draft and pass a bill concerning exposure to depleted uranium by members of the armed forces who return to California after service in the military.

June 21, 2005 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 7 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

Absent: 3 - Daly, Ma, McGoldrick

Excused: 1 - Maxwell

File No. 051176

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on June 21, 2005 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

JUN 23 2005

Date Approved

Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom