

1 [Commending the Obama Administration for the Granting of Temporary Protected Status to
2 Haitians Living in the United States]

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4 Resolution commending the Obama Administration for granting Temporary Protected Status
5 (TPS) to Haitians in the United States, and directing the Clerk of the Board to send a letter of
6 support to President Obama, Secretary Napolitano, Speaker Pelosi, Senator Feinstein, and
7 Senator Boxer.

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9 WHEREAS, A devastating earthquake, the worst in 200 years, struck Port-au-Prince
10 on Tuesday January 12, 2010 laying waste to the city; and

11 WHEREAS, According to some estimates, more than 100,000 people have died, and
12 an estimated three million people, or one third of the country's population, have been affected
13 by this tragedy; and,

14 WHEREAS, The earthquake has toppled houses, hospitals, hotels, and other buildings
15 leaving an untold number of people homeless and without access to food, water, or medical
16 care; and,

17 WHEREAS, Currently 30,00 Haitians in the United States are facing deportation orders
18 because they lack the proper documentation to stay in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) was established by Congress in order
20 to protect nationals of designated countries who are temporarily unable to return home safely
21 because of ongoing armed conflicts, environmental disasters, or other extraordinary and
22 temporary conditions; and

23 WHEREAS, The Department of Homeland Security has temporarily halted all
24 deportations to Haiti, but the decision neither has a timetable nor allows Haitians to work. In
25 contrast, designating Haiti for TPS would protect Haitians already in the United States by both

1 halting deportations and allowing Haitian immigrants to secure work permits and send their
2 earnings home to help Haiti to rebuild; and

3 WHEREAS, As the poorest country in the western Hemisphere, Haiti already depends
4 significantly on remittances; TPS would enable Haitians in the United States to better support
5 their families and their loved ones in Haiti; and

6 WHEREAS, Granting TPS also will allow the Haitian government to better invest its
7 limited resources into rebuilding damaged infrastructure and offer emergency relief to its
8 suffering people; and

9 WHEREAS, TPS, instituted in tandem with comprehensive relief and development
10 policies, will protect Haitians in the United States from being forcibly returned to an unsafe
11 situation and will allow Haiti to recover from this crisis; now therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors commends the Obama
13 Administration for granting Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitians in the United
14 States, and directs the Clerk of the Board to send a letter of support to President Obama,
15 Secretary Napolitano, Speaker Pelosi, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Boxer.

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