

1 [Responding to harmful effects of federal or state immigration legislation.]

2 **Resolution committing the City and County of San Francisco to respond in a timely,**
3 **humane and just manner to the harmful effects of the proposed immigration legislation**
4 **passed at the federal or state levels.**
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6 WHEREAS, San Francisco is known for its great cultural diversity and heritage,
7 including its renown as a refuge for seeking social and economic liberation from within and
8 without the United States; and
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10 WHEREAS, According to the 2000 Census, 36.8 percent of San Francisco's residents
11 are foreign born immigrants; and,

12 WHEREAS, In 1989, the City and County of San Francisco established itself as a City
13 of Refuge, proscribing the collusion of City institutions with federal immigration officials; and,

14 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on February 3, 2006
15 reaffirming the City and County of San Francisco's commitment providing a safe, healthy and
16 dignified place to live for all immigrants regardless of their immigration status and
17 condemning the "Board Protection, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act,"
18 HR4437, in the face of growing border vigilantism and urged local, state, and national leaders
19 to protect immigrants from vigilante violence and to create immigration reform that addresses
20 the root causes of migration; and,

21 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on June 4, 2004 urging the
22 Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement to send a
23 well-publicized message to the immigrant community in San Francisco that INS raids will not
24 be pursued in immigrant communities in response to a recent raid that was conducted in a
25 hotel populated with Asian and Latino immigrants; and,

1 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on March 19, 2004
2 opposing Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposals to eliminate state guarantees which ensure
3 that low-income immigrants have access to health and social services; and,

4 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on October 17, 2003 to
5 urge the 108th U.S. Congress to pass the AgJobs Act of 2003 for seasonal immigrant farm
6 workers to ensure safety, residency and labor protections for immigrant workers; and,

7 WHEREAS, The federal government is now poised to make significant changes in
8 immigration law relating to enforcement, employment and citizenship and these changes will
9 create a massive need for quick, reliable and accurate information to be distributed to
10 immigrant communities; and,

11 WHEREAS, The bills now under consideration by the federal government, Senate Bill
12 2611 and the House of Representatives Bill 4437, will at worst criminalize the immigrant
13 community and their supporters and at best lead to greater persecution and enforcement of
14 immigrant residents in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, The passage of a compromise between the Senate and House bills is
16 predicted to generate a massive amount of confusion, fear and hysteria in immigrant
17 communities; and,

18 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s immigrant service organizations that provide legal
19 assistance to immigrants of all backgrounds are not fiscally prepared or adequately staffed to
20 meet the anticipated needs of San Francisco’s immigrant community in response to the
21 proposed changes to immigration law at the federal level; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby acknowledges that the City and County
23 of San Francisco shall commit the necessary fiscal resources to ensure that it can adequately
24 provision resources in order to uphold its status as a City of Refuge; and be it,

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County shall prepare a timely, humane and
2 just response including the provision of legal service and a comprehensive community
3 education and outreach strategy so that immigrant residents have accurate information
4 regarding changes to federal immigration law and knowledge of available resources to make
5 informed decisions for their well-being and that of their families.

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