

1 [Commemorating 65th Anniversary of Repeal of 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act]
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3 **Resolution commemorating December 17, 2008 as the 65th Anniversary of the repeal of**
4 **the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, which was the first significant restriction on free**
5 **immigration in United States history.**
6

7 WHEREAS, The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and subsequent versions represent
8 one of the few, if not the only, times in which the United States enacted law with specific
9 racial biases against a portion of its peoples, and,

10 WHEREAS, These people were specified to be of Chinese ancestry, and was later to
11 include people of other specific races and ethnicity; and,

12 WHEREAS, The Chinese Exclusion Act resulted in decades of racial harassment,
13 overtly hostile discrimination, violence, and even murder – all justified by the existence of the
14 Chinese Exclusion Act and its related state laws against the Chinese; and,

15 WHEREAS, The overriding human consequence was the separation of families,
16 results of which are still being felt by Chinese Americans to this day; and,

17 WHEREAS, The consequent legal injustice was the abrogation of civil rights of a
18 particular group of American inhabitants, namely the Chinese of America, based solely on
19 race; and

20 WHEREAS, The repeal marked a significant turning point and reversal of American
21 civic philosophy and policy away from race-based tenets; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
23 commemorate December 17, 2008 as the anniversary of that significant day in American
24 history leading toward a more inclusive and equitable United States.
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City and County of San Francisco

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Tails
Resolution

File Number: 081572

Date Passed:

Resolution commemorating December 17, 2008 as the 65th Anniversary of the repeal of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, which was the first significant restriction on free immigration in United States history.

December 16, 2008 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Campos, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 081572

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on December 16, 2008 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

12/19/2008

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom