

1 [Urging adoption of the Permanent Partner Immigration Act]  
2 Urging the United States Congress to adopt the "Permanent  
3 Partner Immigration Act" in the next Congressional session,  
4 which would add the term "permanent partner" to sections of  
5 immigration law that provide immigration rights to legally  
6 married couples, and would allow gay and lesbian citizens to  
7 sponsor their partners as U.S. residents.

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 75 percent of the one million Green  
9 Cards and Immigrant Visas issued each year go to family members  
10 of U.S. citizens and permanent residents; and,

11 WHEREAS, The INS's current definition of family excludes  
12 same-sex partners; and,

13 WHEREAS, The Permanent Partner Immigration Act seeks to  
14 recognize the reality that lesbian and gay couples are deserving  
15 of the same basic immigration rights as heterosexuals; and,

16 WHEREAS, Thirteen other countries currently allow the gay  
17 partners of their citizens to become permanent residents,  
18 including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France,  
19 Iceland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa,  
20 Sweden and the United Kingdom; and,

21 WHEREAS, San Francisco has taken the important step of  
22 proclaiming itself a "City of Refuge" for dual-passport gay  
23 couples; and,

24 WHEREAS, In the spring of 2000, the Board of Supervisors  
25 voted to instruct city workers not to alert immigration

1 officials to partnered gay and lesbian foreigners living on  
2 expired Visas; and,

3 WHEREAS, U.S. immigration law should be changed to make  
4 such subterfuge unnecessary to mirror San Francisco's  
5 compassionate approach; and,

6 WHEREAS, The Permanent Partner Immigration Act is an  
7 appropriate next step toward establishing equality in  
8 immigration standards for gay men and lesbians; now, therefore,  
9 be it,

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
11 County of San Francisco Urges the United States Congress to  
12 adopt the "Permanent Partner Immigration Act" in the next  
13 Congressional session, which would add the term "permanent  
14 partner" to sections of immigration law that provide immigration  
15 rights to legally married couples, and would allow gay and  
16 lesbian citizens to sponsor their partners as U.S. residents."

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Mark Leno, Tom Ammiano

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 010379

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the United States Congress to adopt the "Permanent Partner Immigration Act" in the next Congressional session, which would add the term "permanent partner" to section of immigration law that provide immigration rights to legally married couples, and would allow gay and lesbian citizens to sponsor their partners as U.S. residents.

March 5, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee

File No. 010379

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 5, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

[Signature]
Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

MAR 16 2001

MAR 16 2001

Date Approved

[Signature]
Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.