

1 [Opposing India’s Exclusionary National Register of Citizens and Citizenship Amendment Act]

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3 **Resolution opposing India’s exclusionary National Register of Citizens and Citizenship**  
4 **Amendment Act and reaffirming San Francisco as a welcoming city, expressing the**  
5 **City and County of San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors’ solidarity with San**  
6 **Francisco’s South Asian community regardless of religion and caste.**

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8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports Universal Human  
9 Rights for all peoples and opposes racial, casteist, religious, ethnic and nationalist  
10 discrimination; and

11 WHEREAS, The nation of India was founded as a secular republic in which members  
12 of all nationalities, ethnicities, castes, races, and religious faiths are welcome, and India and  
13 the United States share common values and bonds: Democracy, the Rule of Law, and the  
14 Protection of Human Rights and Liberty; and

15 WHEREAS, In August 2019, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), a Hindu extremist  
16 government published an updated National Register of Citizens (NRC), forcing nearly 33  
17 million people in the northeastern state of Assam to prove with documentary evidence their  
18 Indian citizenship or face detention at mass prisons and detention camps that the Indian  
19 government is constructing and filling; and

20 WHEREAS, Most Indians lack documentation such as birth certificates to prove  
21 citizenship and a nationwide expansion of the NRC will strip tens of millions of people  
22 (disproportionately Muslim, caste oppressed, women, indigenous and LGBTQ communities)  
23 out of their citizenship rights with no option to be re-naturalized; and

24 WHEREAS, On December 11, 2019, the Indian parliament, under the leadership of the  
25 BJP government, passed the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which the BJP government

1 falsely claims will help refugees fleeing religious persecution from neighboring countries, but  
2 in fact blatantly discriminates, allowing the NRC to be updated in relation to the National  
3 Population Register for citizenship based on religion, excluding Muslim people; and

4 WHEREAS, The New York Times reported on December 22, 2019, that “The Indian  
5 Home Minister, Amit Shah, has vowed in speeches to expand the checks used in Assam to  
6 other states and then use the citizenship law to purge India of ‘infiltrators’ and ‘termites’;” and

7 WHEREAS, The NRC and CAA will create a massive refugee and health crisis at a  
8 time that the United Nations is trying to cope with refugees all over the world; and

9 WHEREAS, Protests in India against the CAA and NRC in December 2019 have faced  
10 repression including reports that in the state of Uttar Pradesh police fatally fired live  
11 ammunition at demonstrators and arrested thousands; and

12 WHEREAS, The BJP government of India has been criticized by the United Nations for  
13 its human rights record on minorities; and

14 WHEREAS, In its 2020 report, The U.S. Commission on International Religious  
15 Freedom has designated India as a Country of "Particular Concern" (CPC), stating that the  
16 country is "engaging in and tolerating systematic, ongoing, and egregious religious freedom  
17 violations;” and

18 WHEREAS, President Trump’s bigoted policies within the U.S. including discriminating  
19 on religious grounds, targeting vulnerable communities, stripping citizenship, fabricating  
20 crises, and stoking hatred, have been mirrored by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, his  
21 Hindu extremist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government, and their alarming ideology that  
22 Hindus are racially and culturally superior to others; and

23 WHEREAS, The CAA, NPR and NRC are inconsistent with San Francisco’s values and  
24 history as a welcoming city for South Asian communities of all castes and creeds; and

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1           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors believes it is the duty of ordinary  
2 people to oppose the dangerous rise of the far right everywhere in the world and believes that  
3 the human rights record of the BJP government in India is of concern, not only to the millions  
4 of Muslims, caste oppressed, women, indigenous, and LGBTQ people in India, but also to  
5 San Francisco's South Asian immigrant community; and

6           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemn President Trump's  
7 support for the repressive and discriminatory actions of the BJP government and refusal to  
8 denounce violence, those inciting violence, and those officials evading their duties to keep  
9 order and peace; now, therefore, be it

10          RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms San Francisco as  
11 a welcoming city and expresses solidarity with San Francisco's South Asian community  
12 regardless of religion and caste; and, be it

13          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors opposes the  
14 Citizenship Amendment Act, the National Population Register, and the National Register of  
15 Citizens in India, which together are discriminatory to Muslims, caste oppressed, women,  
16 indigenous peoples, and the LGBTQ community and any other efforts that render vulnerable  
17 populations anywhere to become stateless, scapegoated, and targeted for discrimination,  
18 violence, and the abrogation of human rights that are universal to one and all; and, be it

19          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, to safeguard  
20 our democratic values and national security interests, calls on and urges other municipalities  
21 and the United States Congress to join them in the call for the Parliament of India to uphold  
22 the Indian Constitution by repealing the Citizenship Amendment Act, stop the National  
23 Register of Citizens, close all detention facilities detaining de-naturalized citizens, take steps  
24 towards helping refugees by ratifying various UN treaties on refugees, explore U.S. and U.N.  
25 sanctions; and to:

- 1 a) Respect the human rights of all people and adhere to international human rights  
2 law,  
3 b) Condemn, at the highest levels, all religiously motivated violence, including  
4 violence which targets religious minorities, and  
5 c) Prosecute anyone actively inciting violence, including violence against peaceful  
6 protestors and journalists; and, be it  
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8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs  
9 the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies to the members of Congress from San Francisco and  
10 the United States Senators from California with a request to take all action necessary to  
11 achieve the objectives of this Resolution.  
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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 200771

Date Passed: July 21, 2020

Resolution opposing India's exclusionary National Register of Citizens and Citizenship Amendment Act and reaffirming San Francisco as a welcoming city, expressing the City and County of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors' solidarity with San Francisco's South Asian community regardless of religion and caste.

July 21, 2020 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

File No. 200771

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 7/21/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

07/31/2020

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

07/31/2020

Date