

1 [Urging passage of the Marijuana Control, Regulation and Education Act (AB 390) which
2 would tax and regulate marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol]

3 **Resolution supporting the recently proposed state legislation, the Marijuana Control,**
4 **Regulation and Education Act (AB 390), which would tax and regulate marijuana in a**
5 **manner similar to alcohol.**
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7 WHEREAS, The State of California is in the midst of an historic economic crisis; and

8 WHEREAS, The State of California just having closed a \$42 billion budget deficit
9 highlights the need to generate new revenue; and,

10 WHEREAS, Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) has introduced
11 legislation, the Marijuana Control, Regulation and Education Act (AB 390), which would tax
12 and regulate marijuana, and which, if passed, is estimated to generate \$1.339 billion in new
13 revenue for the State of California; and,

14 WHEREAS, New revenue for the State of California would help San Francisco in that it
15 could provide additional funding for critical city and social services that would otherwise be cut
16 during this budget crisis; and,

17 WHEREAS, The taxation and regulation of marijuana would be similar to the regulatory
18 structure applied to beer, wine and liquor, permitting taxed sales to adults while barring sales
19 to or possession by those under 21 years of age; and,

20 WHEREAS, According to federal estimates, marijuana is California's number one cash
21 crop, with an estimated value of \$14 billion a year, worth double the state's vegetable and
22 grape crops combined; and,

23 WHEREAS, The proposed legislation, AB 390, is estimated to bring billions of dollars
24 in annual revenue from fees and sales and excised taxes; and,
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1 WHEREAS, Multiple local jurisdictions in California, including San Francisco, have
2 voted to make marijuana the “lowest law-enforcement priority;” and,

3 WHEREAS, In 2007, 74,000 Californians were arrested for marijuana offences, 80
4 percent of these arrests being misdemeanor charges, which resulted in taxpayers footing a
5 bill which is estimated at \$1 Billion dollars a year; and,

6 WHEREAS, Thirteen states already regulate medical marijuana; and,

7 WHEREAS, California already collects taxes on various aspects of the medical
8 marijuana enterprise; and,

9 WHEREAS, The federalist structure of our government expressly permits states to
10 fashion their criminal laws or lack thereof, free from federal government interference; and,
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the State of
13 California to pass Assemblymember Ammiano’s Marijuana Control, Regulation and Education
14 Act (AB 390), which would tax and regulate marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol.

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