

1 [Urging Support for Afghan Refugees]

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3 **Resolution urging our state and federal leaders to bring in more at-risk and vulnerable**  
4 **Afghan people to the United States, and that Afghan evacuees and their families be**  
5 **supported in their transition to American life and granted access to significant**  
6 **opportunities and benefits.**

7

8 WHEREAS, The ongoing uncertainty and violence in Afghanistan has created a  
9 humanitarian crisis, with rapidly deteriorating human rights and reductions in safety  
10 particularly for vulnerable individuals, including, but not limited to: women and children,  
11 members of the LGBTQ community, those who have direct ties to the U.S. government and  
12 military, members of ethnic minority communities, those who are Shi'a Muslim, adherents of  
13 non-Muslim faiths, including those of Sikh and Hindu faiths, and individuals who work for or  
14 have ties to aid organizations; and

15 WHEREAS, Refugees and their families face a multitude of challenges when arriving in  
16 the United States and transitioning to a new life, including but not limited to: resettlement,  
17 language barriers, financial hardship, accessing education, finding work and legal status; and

18 WHEREAS, Federal and state leaders in California, specifically in the Bay Area, home  
19 to the largest concentration of Afghans and Afghan Americans in the United States, have the  
20 unique and moral responsibility to welcome Afghan refugees into our communities, while  
21 honoring the commitments of the United States government, assisting in the evacuation of  
22 vulnerable groups, providing support to organizations who will serve the refugee community,  
23 and showing support for the Afghan community during this difficult time; and

24 WHEREAS, It is anticipated that California will receive 5,225 Afghan evacuees, more  
25 than any other state as part of the first phase of resettlement of 37,000 Afghan refugees; and

1           WHEREAS, The Biden administration has asked Congress to approve funding for the  
2 resettlement of nearly 100,000 more Afghan evacuees; and

3           WHEREAS, Afghans seeking refuge in the United States either assisted the American  
4 war effort in Afghanistan, or were determined to be at-risk in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan  
5 due to their status as women, journalists, activists, humanitarian workers, or American  
6 embassy staff; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports and welcomes  
8 refugees from Afghanistan into our community and urges our state and federal leaders to act  
9 immediately and with determination to rightfully bring at-risk and vulnerable Afghan peoples  
10 and their families to the United States for safety and prosperity and that they be afforded full  
11 benefits to transition into American life; specifically, the Board of Supervisors encourages  
12 California to accept more and house more Afghan refugees and supports access to significant  
13 opportunities and benefits to individuals and families arriving from Afghanistan, including, but  
14 not limited to: immediate eligibility for reception and placement afforded under Special  
15 Immigrant Visa (SIV) and refugee status conditions within a week of arriving on US soil; and,  
16 be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of San Francisco shall do everything in its power  
18 to help with the resettlement of Afghan evacuees in our community; and, be it

19           FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution be forwarded to the Office of California  
20 Governor Gavin Newsom, Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, and Senate Majority Leader  
21 Chuck Schumer.