

1 [Condemnation of ICE and DIHS for its treatment of detainees and deportees.]

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3 **Resolution condemning ICE and DIHS for its systemic neglect of detainees' medical**  
4 **needs, and its forced injection of deportees with psychotropic drugs upon their**  
5 **deportation.**

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7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco values all of its residents whether  
8 they be citizens, legal residents or undocumented people, and strives toward allowing all  
9 residents to work and live free from discrimination, exploitation, and repression; and,

10 WHEREAS, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has, in recent months,  
11 conducted raids, individual detentions, arrests and deportations in the City and County of San  
12 Francisco as well as other surrounding Bay Area cities; and,

13 WHEREAS, Under the custody of ICE, thousands of people are crammed into over-  
14 crowded detention facilities awaiting deportation or a judicial hearing regarding deportation or  
15 other immigration issues; and,

16 WHEREAS, Many detainees are working-class people who are long-time labor workers  
17 in the U.S. who are seeking to establish legal residence and/or citizenship for themselves and  
18 their families, and many are professionals from abroad, such as journalists, doctors, lawyers,  
19 and political activists, who are seeking asylum from dangers in their own country; and,

20 WHEREAS, Detentions have increased 400 percent from 5,532 in 1994 to 27,500 in  
21 2006, and in October 2007, ICE was holding 14,764 immigrants in detention facilities  
22 throughout the nation; and,

23 WHEREAS, The dramatic growth in immigrant prisons is rooted in the expansion of  
24 U.S. policies and strategies criminalizing immigration status and making jail mandatory for all  
25 immigrants while their cases are pending; and,

1           WHEREAS, Privately operated immigrant detention centers, some of which are  
2 publicly traded companies on the New York Stock Exchange, are motivated to cut costs in the  
3 building and operation of its facilities, and in the care of its detainees, in order to increase its  
4 profits; and,

5           WHEREAS, In 2006, the Office of the Inspector General conducted an audit of five  
6 detention facilities used by ICE and found multiple instances of noncompliance with detention  
7 standards related to health care, environmental health and safety, general conditions of  
8 confinement, and the reporting of abuse; and,

9           WHEREAS, Interviews with detainees revealed pest control problems, facilities with  
10 poor ventilation, rape and abusive search allegations, as well as inadequate procedures for  
11 reporting civil rights violations; and,

12           WHEREAS, Many doctors, nurses, and detainees have reported that the Division of  
13 Immigration Health Services (DIHS) has neglected the serious health care needs of detainees  
14 at multiple detention facilities, and, as a result, some detainees have either died of treatable  
15 illnesses, or have been forced to suffer the painful effects of their illnesses due to poor care,  
16 slow care, or no care; and,

17           WHEREAS, During the past five years, 83 detainees have died in or soon after  
18 custody; and,

19           WHEREAS, Detainees' deaths or insufficient treatment has been due, in many cases,  
20 to flawed medical judgments, medication errors, faulty administrative practices, ill-trained  
21 technicians, neglectful guards, sloppy record-keeping, lost medical files, and staff shortages;  
22 and,

23           WHEREAS, The U.S. government has injected hundreds of deportees with dangerous  
24 psychotropic drugs against their will to keep them sedated during the trip back to their home  
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1 country including cases where there was no medical basis or security risk; and, now,  
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
4 condemns ICE and DIHS for their systemic abuse of detainees; their systematic neglect of  
5 ICE detainees' medical needs, which has resulted in or contributed to the death and/or  
6 physical and mental suffering and illness of hundreds of detainees and deportees; and their  
7 forced injection of deportees with psychotropic drugs upon their deportation.

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