

1 [Urging Federal Officials to Urge Mexico’s Federal Electoral Tribunal to Order a Vote by Vote
2 Recount]

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4 **Resolution urging Federal officials to urge Mexico’s Federal Electoral Tribunal to order**
5 **a vote by vote recount in the presidential election.**
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7 WHEREAS, On July 2, 2006, Mexico held a national election to choose its next
8 president; and

9 WHEREAS, On July 4, 2006, Mexico’s Federal Election Institute announced that
10 candidate Felipe Calderon had a nearly 500,000 vote lead over candidate Andres Manuel
11 Lopez Obrador; and

12 WHEREAS, This announcement resulted in an immediate challenge by Lopez Obrador
13 who argued that over 3 million ballots or 8% of the total vote, had not been counted; and,

14 WHEREAS, On July 5, 2006, Mexico’s Federal Election Institute acknowledged that,
15 contrary to its prior assertions, over three million ballots had not been counted and began
16 counting them; and

17 WHEREAS, On July 6, 2006, the New York Times sampled six precincts, and found
18 that all had miscounted their totals in favor of Calderon and to the detriment of Lopez
19 Obrador; and

20 WHEREAS, On July 6, 2006, Mexico’s Federal Election Institute declared Calderon the
21 winner by 236,000 votes out of 41 million cast; and

22 WHEREAS, Over the past month, media outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The*
23 *Washington Post* and Pacifica Radio’s Democracy Now have covered numerous charges of
24 electoral fraud from observers and the Lopez Obrador campaign which has cited irregularities
25 in over 40,000 of Mexico’s 130,000 polling sites and has received numerous videos of

1 electoral fraud, including videos showing ballot box stuffing in the state of Guanajuato and an
2 election official in the state of Queretaro refusing to recount a ballot box that was later shown
3 to have discrepancies in favor of Calderon; and

4 WHEREAS, In order to ensure fairness of the election, a vote by vote recount is
5 essential without which the country's democratic process will be at risk; and

6 WHEREAS, Mexico's Federal Electoral Tribunal, an independent judicial body, is
7 charged with approving the election or ordering recounts by September 6, 2006; and

8 WHEREAS, On July 7, 2006, *The New York Times* editorialized on the election saying,
9 "there are enough problems to warrant a complete recount" and suggesting that Mexico's
10 Federal Electoral Tribunal order a recount as it has done for recent elections in the Mexico
11 states of Tabasco and Colima; and

12 WHEREAS, Over the past few weeks following the election millions of Mexican citizens
13 have been rallying across the country and in the capital demanding a full vote by vote recount
14 -- asserting that only a vote by vote recount can put to rest lingering doubts about the July 2
15 election; and

16 WHEREAS, on August 4, 2006, the Federal Electoral Tribunal ordered only a partial
17 recount of 9% of the country's ballots, a recount that few believe will resolve these doubts or
18 ameliorate growing tensions within the country; and

19 WHEREAS, As evidence of these doubts people across Mexico and in the
20 international community have stepped up their call for a vote by vote recount and on August
21 8, 2006, *The San Francisco Chronicle* editorialized against the Federal Electoral Tribunal's
22 ordering a partial recount saying only "a full recount is necessary to establish public
23 confidence in the final outcome"; and

1 WHEREAS, With thousands of Mexican immigrants people of Mexican descent and
2 with the City and State's economy closely linked to Mexico, San Francisco has a strong
3 interest in the survival of Mexico's democratic system; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby urges our Federal
5 officials to urge Mexico's Federal Electoral Tribunal to order an immediate vote by vote
6 recount in the presidential election.

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