

1 [California National Guard and the War in Iraq]

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3 **Resolution urging the Governor of California to request the Pentagon, the President**
4 **and Congress to take steps to withdraw California National Guard troops from Iraq.**

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6 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco and its citizens strongly support the
7 men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and recognize the
8 sacrifices that each of them is making. The City and County of San Francisco and it's citizens
9 stand ready to help these Californians in any way they can and,

10 WHEREAS, in October 2002 the United States Congress adopted a Joint Resolution
11 to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces Against Iraq, relying on statements that
12 were untrue, when in fact the United States:

- 13 • was not threatened with attack by Iraq,
- 14 • Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction,
- 15 • Saddam Hussein had no role in the 9/11 attacks.

16 WHEREAS, in going to war, the President did not meet the conditions imposed by
17 Congress, failing to show Congress why he:

- 18 • decided that diplomatic or peaceful means alone would not protect the national
19 security of the United States or lead to enforcement of security Council resolutions
20 on Iraq,
- 21 • why he decided that going to war was a necessary proven—that Iraq authorized,
22 committed, or aided in the 9/11 attacks

23 WHEREAS, the war has resulted in serious and potentially long-lasting consequences
24 for the United States and limited the chances for a just and durable peace in Iraq and the
25 Middle East and,

1 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution provides that Congress shall have the
2 power to “provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the laws of the Union, to suppress
3 insurrections and repel invasions,” and the California State Assembly, the California State
4 Senate, and the Governor of California to direct the training and arming of members of the
5 California National Guard for defense of the State and,

6 WHEREAS, at least since 1986 the President and Congress have had nearly total
7 control over state militias, including the California National Guard and,

8 WHEREAS, the costs of the call-up of California National Guard members for
9 deployment in Iraq has been significant, as reckoned in lost lives, combat injuries, psychic
10 trauma, disruption of family life, financial hardship for individuals, families, and businesses,
11 interruption of careers, and damage to the fabric of civic life in many California communities
12 and,

13 WHEREAS, these are costs which would be suffered willingly were there a threat to
14 our nation, but which are not tolerable where there is none and,

15 WHEREAS, Californians have joined the Guard thinking that they would be serving
16 their neighbors by helping with California-based emergencies, unless there was a danger to
17 America requiring transfer to active duty and,

18 WHEREAS, stop-loss orders violate the mutual understanding between Californians in
19 the Guard and the state and nation they agreed to serve and,

20 WHEREAS, there is reason to believe that the federalization and deployment of
21 National Guard members has rendered the remaining Guard force unable to carry out its
22 state activities effectively; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, that the City and County of San Francisco request the members of
24 California’s Congressional Delegation to urge Congress to restore the balance between the
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1 federal government and the states, limiting the nearly complete federal control over State
2 National Guard unites to cases:

3 Where there is an insurrection or a plausible threat of insurrection; or

4 Where there is a declaration of war under the United States Constitution;

5 Create a commission or other body to investigate the role of the National Guard in
6 serving the State of California and to study the impact of the federal and deployment of its
7 members on the ability of the Guard to perform its mission in California and,

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City and County of San Francisco urges the Governor
9 of California to request the Pentagon, the President and Congress to take steps to withdraw
10 California National Guard troops from Iraq and,

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors send a copy of this
12 Resolution to each member of the California Congressional Delegation, the California
13 Governor, the Speaker of the California Assembly, and the President Pro Tempore of the
14 California Senate.

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