

1 [Resolution condemning the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Raids, opposing
2 proposed guest worker programs and supporting legalization programs for immigrants.]

3 **Resolution condemning Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) raids, opposing**
4 **guest worker programs, and supporting legalization programs for immigrants living in**
5 **the United States.**

6 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco values all of its residents whether
7 they be citizens, legal residents or undocumented, and strive towards all residents being able
8 to work and live free from discrimination, exploitation, and repressive federal immigration
9 enforcement; and

10 WHEREAS, Under “Operation Return to Sender”, Homeland Security and Immigration
11 and Custom Enforcement (ICE) has conducted raids, individual detentions, arrests and
12 deportations, and in the process Federal agents have targeted private homes, commercial
13 buildings, stores and have harassed individuals on the street in immigrant neighborhoods;
14 and,

15 WHEREAS, According to community and media sources, such as the *Contra Costa*
16 *Times* which reported over 100 detentions in Contra Costa alone, approximately 300 people
17 have been detained in the Bay Area since the beginning of Operation Return to Sender; and,

18 WHEREAS, These enforcement activities have taken place in recent weeks in Bay
19 Area cities like Redwood City, Richmond, Concord, San Mateo and San Francisco; and,

20 WHEREAS, During some of these raids, witnesses have reported that federal agents
21 have identified themselves as local police, have forcibly entered people’s homes without
22 warrants, and have used intimidation and harassment and in a few cases, federal agents were
23 seen in close proximity to schools; and,

24 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, witnesses have seen federal agents in various
25 neighborhoods, including the Excelsior District, the Tenderloin and the Mission District where

1 on February 6, 2007 federal agents raided a home at 23rd and Bryant and arrested five
2 people, and,

3 WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco passed its City of Refuge Ordinance and its INS
4 Raid Free Resolution in order to support all residents', including undocumented people's right
5 to live in San Francisco free from fear of abuse and raids of federal INS officials; and,

6 WHEREAS, Raids and other enforcement activities based on people's immigration
7 status separates families, causes people to not access services, and creates a general
8 climate of terror; and,

9 WHEREAS, Congress is currently considering legislation that would legalize
10 undocumented immigrants in this country and granting legalization is a fair and just way of
11 addressing undocumented migration to this country and avoids the criminalization of
12 immigrant communities; and,

13 WHEREAS, Congress is also considering a new temporary (or guest) worker program,
14 which would lead to the exploitation of immigrant workers, and would weaken all workers'
15 ability to organize; and,

16 WHEREAS, Guestworker programs are not a just or a fair way to address future
17 migration and create a second tier of workers with fewer rights and less job security; and,

18 WHEREAS, Current guest worker programs allow labor contractors to maintain
19 blacklists of workers who may work slowly or demand labor rights and once blacklisted are
20 barred from working in the United States again; and,

21 WHEREAS, Under current guest worker programs, lawyers spend years in court trying
22 to get back wages for cheated immigrants from contractors whom the Department of Labor
23 almost never decertifies for such abuse; and,

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1 WHEREAS, Under current programs, and in the new congressional proposals, if
2 workers lose their jobs, they must leave, making deportation a punishment for being
3 unemployed; and,

4 WHEREAS, Guestworkers don't receive unemployment insurance, disability or
5 workers' compensation payments while companies save money and avoid bad publicity by
6 sending injured workers back home, where healthcare is virtually unavailable; and,

7 WHEREAS, By their nature, guest worker programs are low-wage schemes, intended
8 to supply plentiful labor to corporate employers, at a price they want to pay; and now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby condemns the
11 recent raids, arrests, detentions and deportations; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Homeland
13 Security not to conduct these activities within its boundaries and to meet with City and County
14 officials and residents regarding the recent raids; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco
16 delegation, including Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi and Senators Barbara Boxer and
17 Dianne Feinstein to denounce the raids and to fight for the legalization of all undocumented
18 immigrants in this country, and oppose a new temporary worker program; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk
20 of the Board to send copies of this resolution to Federal representatives: Senator Dianne
21 Feinstein, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi,
22 and Congressman Tom Lantos.

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