

1 [Repeal Mandatory Minimums.]

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3 **Resolution urging the United States Congress to ~~repeal~~ support HR 1978 in repealing**
4 **Mandatory Minimum Federal sentencing guidelines.**

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6 WHEREAS, Mandatory Minimum Federal sentencing guidelines suffer from a lack of
7 flexibility in sentencing, resulting in the imposition of unreasonable sentences; and,

8 WHEREAS, Chief Justice William Rehnquist has said that mandatory minimum
9 sentencing statues are “perhaps a good example of the law of unintended consequences;”
10 and,

11 WHEREAS, Mandatory minimums are not applied uniformly and have a
12 disproportionate impact on non-white offenders; and,

13 WHEREAS, There is a growing body of research indicating that mandatory minimums
14 are not achieving goals of reducing crime or drug availability; and,

15 WHEREAS, The expansion of the prison system as a result of longer sentences and
16 incarceration for non-violent offenses has been at great public expense, \$3.4 billion in prison
17 construction in 1997 alone; and,

18 WHEREAS, The cost of incarcerating one prisoner is over \$20,000, and over a million
19 prisoners in the United States, more than half of all prisoners, are imprisoned for non-violent
20 offenses;

21 WHEREAS, There are many people currently incarcerated as a result of existing
22 mandatory minimum statues whose sentences should be revisited; now, therefore, be it

23 **RESOLVED**, That the United States Congress should ~~repeal~~ support HR 1978 in
24 repealing Mandatory Minimum Sentencing, and grant relief to prisoners already sentenced
25 under the guidelines; and, be it

Supervisor Gonzalez

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall forward a
2 copy of this resolution to San Francisco's Congressional delegation, Representatives Pelosi
3 and Lantos and Senators Feinstein and Boxer, the Black Congressional Caucus, and Latino
4 Congressional Caucus.

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