

1 [Condemning Anti-LGBT Actions in the Chechen Republic]

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3 **Resolution condemning anti-LGBT actions in the Chechen Republic and joining in**
4 **solidarity with all LGBT Russians in their fight for lives, dignity and respect.**

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6 WHEREAS, It is the duty of all governments, democratically elected or otherwise, to
7 ensure that human and civil rights, such as the freedom of assembly and expression, as well
8 as freedom from physical violence at the hands of the state, is afforded to all citizens; and,

9 WHEREAS, When a government targets minority groups for persecution, abuse and
10 murder that government is committing crimes against humanity; and

11 WHEREAS, On April 4, 2017, the Russian news outlet Novaya Gazeta first reported
12 that gay men in the Chechen Republic (Chechnya) are being arrested by police, and being
13 sent to de facto concentration camps; and

14 WHEREAS, The men sent to these concentration camps are reporting to have been
15 tortured to get the names of other gay men for further arrests, and three of these men have
16 reportedly died at the hands of the police; and

17 WHEREAS, Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov, often using Instagram, has actively
18 chosen to erase the existence of gay Chechens in public commentary by claiming they do not
19 exist, and at the same time inferring families would murder them in honor killings if gay men
20 were in Chechnya; and

21 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has historically been at the forefront
22 of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and sexual and gender minority social justice,
23 human and civil rights; and

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1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has become the beacon of hope for so many LGBT people
2 fleeing hostility, persecution and violence in the United States and across the world, now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns the government sanctioned
5 persecution, torture and murder of gay men in the Chechen Republic, and joins in solidarity
6 with all LGBT Russians in their fight for lives, dignity and respect; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests that
8 the California State Legislature also censure the Chechen government sanctioned
9 persecution of gay men; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests that
11 our federal legislative delegation take action to encourage the U.S. Citizenship and
12 Immigration Services to create protocols for expedited asylum status for individuals fleeing
13 persecution due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

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