

1 [A resolution supporting H.R. 1712 and S 880 which intend to expand the boundaries of the
2 Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine
3 Sanctuary]

4 **Resolution supporting H.R. 1712 and S880 which intends to expand the boundaries of**
5 **the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National**
6 **Marine Sanctuary.**
7

8 WHEREAS, The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) was
9 established in 1981 and **the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary was established in**
10 **1987** to protect the marine environment in general and the area's 26 species of marine
11 mammals and 13 species of breeding seabirds in particular; and,

12 WHEREAS, These marine environments have national and international significance,
13 exceed the biological productivity of tropical rain forests, support high levels of biological
14 diversity, and are easily susceptible to damage from human activities; and,

15 WHEREAS, Since **the 1980's**, oil spills and scientific investigation have made it clear
16 that to accomplish this protection, a unified ecologically based protection plan needed to
17 encompass a larger area that was originally set aside; and,

18 WHEREAS, Now 33 marine mammal species use this area and over half of these
19 mammals are threatened or endangered; and,

20 WHEREAS, Area populations of these species are healthy, increasing and continually
21 seen further north **and west** of the original GFNMS and **CBNMS boundaries** and,

22 WHEREAS, GFNMS has the first or second largest population of Blue and Humpback
23 Whales in the world and these whales use areas north of the GFNMS boundary; and,

24 **WHEREAS, the Bodega Canyon, a unique geological feature that is proposed to**
25 **be added to the CBNMS, is believed to be key to the coast's high biological**
productivity; and

1 WHEREAS, Scientific research is continually revealing the importance of estuaries as
2 nurseries for aquatic species and migration corridors for threatened and endangered salmon;
3 and,

4 WHEREAS, Currently, the important estuaries of the Russian and Gualala Rivers are
5 not in GFNMS jurisdiction; and,

6 WHEREAS, It has become clear that when natural perturbations occur, such as El
7 Nino and La Nina, whales, seabirds, fish and other marine mammals move north of the
8 existing GFNMS **and CBNMS** boundary of protection and study; and,

9 WHEREAS, Advances in petroleum extraction and the **oil industry's** (and
10 Administration's) push toward opening new reserves, make it necessary that the GFNMS and
11 **CBNMS** boundaries be extended **into deeper waters** to protect marine resources; and

12 WHEREAS, Changes in **some of the Sanctuaries' boundaries** are also needed to
13 facilitate boundary identification for mariners, fishers and law enforcement personnel and to
14 promote research in escarpment areas; and,

15 WHEREAS, The GFNMS currently *comprises* 933 square nautical miles and the
16 boundary adjustment would add another 861 square nautical miles **and CBNMS comprises**
17 **399 square nautical miles and would add 233 square nautical miles, therefore be it**

18 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports H.R. 1712 and S
19 880, proposed bills that would expand the boundaries of the GFNMS and CBNMS westward
20 (to protect against deep water offshore oil drilling) and northward to the Gualala River,
21 thereby **permanently** protecting the entire Sonoma Coast **against oil spills and other forms**
22 **of pollution and providing an additional buffer for the City and County of San**
23 **Francisco's coastline.**

24
25