

1 [Resolution endorsing the 2007 Immigrant Rights Summit]

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3 **Resolution endorsing the 2007 Immigrant Rights Summit to be convened at the Bill**
4 **Graham Civic Auditorium and declaring September 15, 2007 as Immigrant Rights Day**
5 **in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, In 1989, San Francisco passed the “City of Refuge” Ordinance that
8 prohibited the use of city funds to enforce federal immigration laws or to share information
9 with federal immigration officials; and,

10 WHEREAS, on January 17, 2006, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors
11 unanimously passed a resolution reaffirming the City's support for the City of Refuge
12 Ordinance; and,

13 WHEREAS, According to the 2000 US Census, immigrants comprise 36.8% of San
14 Francisco’s population with 61.4% from Asia, 21.2% from Latin and Central America, 13.9% from
15 Europe, and Africa, Oceania and Canada each at 1%.

16 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission has voted unanimously
17 to convene an Immigrant Rights Summit on September 15, 2007 at the Bill Graham Civic
18 Auditorium with the purpose of fostering a Bay Area-wide dialogue to positively impact the
19 congressional debate on immigration reform; and,

20 WHEREAS, Not since the Civil Rights Act of 1964 has a bill such before Congress
21 have the potential to engender sweeping socioeconomic repercussions that will be felt for
22 several generations to come and therefore, it is becomes even more critical for policy makers
23 to heed the voices and concerns of their constituents; and

24 WHEREAS, the theme of the Immigrant Rights Summit will be “Unity, Dignity and
25 Opportunity for All Immigrants”; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the 2007 Immigrant Rights Summit is three fold: (1) draft
general guiding principles for a more just and humane immigration reform policy (2) develop

1 best practices for US Sanctuary Cities for fair treatment to all; and (3) develop analysis and
2 best practices of integrating immigrants into civic and cultural life of local communities; and,

3 WHEREAS, San Francisco was the first American City to adopt a “Sanctuary City”
4 ordinance in 1989 and since then, 26 other cities have adopted similar ordinances; and,

5 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors have since reaffirmed San
6 Francisco as a “Sanctuary City” on multiple occasions through passage of amendments
7 beginning in 1999 in response to increased raids by the Immigration and Customs
8 Enforcement (ICE) office; and,

9 WHEREAS, ICE raids have again proliferated in the Bay Area and Mayor Gavin
10 Newsom has expressed great concern about the detrimental impact on local Immigrant
11 communities; and,

12 WHEREAS, Despite the city's reaffirmation of an official policy of non-cooperation, ICE
13 officials continue to arrest, detain and deport members of the immigrant communities without
14 due process, separating families, leaving behind children without parents and inflicting
15 tremendous psychological and economic distress on local communities; and,

16 WHEREAS, Immigrants contribute significantly to the social, economic, and cultural
17 vitality of the City, but the ICE raids coupled with rising xenophobia have compromised the
18 ability of immigrants to contribute meaningfully and with vigor; and,

19 WHEREAS, the ability of society as a whole to fully express its potential is diminished
20 when a significant segment of its population must live in fear, frustration and without due
21 process; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby endorses the 2007
23 Immigrant Rights Summit to be convened at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium and declares
24 September 15, 2007 as Immigrant Rights Day in the City and County of San Francisco.
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