## **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

November 16, 2021

The Honorable President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 505-21

Dear President Biden:

On October 26, 2021, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 505-21 (Urging President Joseph R. Biden to Take Action on Sana'a Airport), which was enacted on November 5, 2021.

The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to forward the following document to your attention:

One copy of Resolution No. 505-21 (File No. 211104)

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184, or by e-mail: <a href="mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org">board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

II:jw:ams

c. Members of the Board of Supervisors; Supervisors Matt Haney, Rafael Mandelman, Dean Preston, Ahsha Safai

Tom Paulino, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors Eddie McCaffrey, Mayor's Manager of State and Federal Legislative Affairs Andres Power, Mayor's Policy Director Resolution urging President Joseph R. Biden to act to reopen Sana'a Airport to civilian travel and help stop the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

[Urging President Joseph R. Biden to Take Action on Sana'a Airport]

WHEREAS, Yemen is going through the worst humanitarian crisis in the modern era; and

WHEREAS, Over seven years of civil war, regional war, and a suffocating siege, has caused one of the worst famines in the history of Yemen; and

WHEREAS, On August 9,2016, Yemen's main airport closed after the Saudi-led coalition imposed restrictions on the country's airspace; and

WHEREAS, Due to lack of medical supplies, diseases have spread and caused havoc through the country causing the number of deaths in the country to double; and

WHEREAS, In light of this tragic humanitarian crisis, the main supporters of the Yemeni people have become those living abroad, especially Yemeni Americans, who provide support to their families, and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, As Yemen's main airport, Sana'a used to be the gateway connecting millions of Yemenis to the outside world, hosting as many as 6,000 passengers a day, and more than 2 million passengers every year; and

WHEREAS, When a Yemeni American travels to Yemen to visit their family, they are forced to travel through Aden Airport in southern Yemen, and from there a treacherous, and dangerous journey awaits him; and

WHEREAS, Not only is the road from Aden to various cities in Yemen long, taking up to 15 hours by car, but the road is also unsafe because of the numerous checkpoints along the way; and

WHEREAS, Recently, a young man by the name of Abdul Malik Al-Sanabani, who had been in the United States for over seven years, was brutally killed at one of the checkpoints in Aden; and

WHEREAS, Yemenis have been stripped of their right to travel abroad to seek medical care, conduct business, study or visit family; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of students have missed out on opportunities to study abroad or take up scholarships; and

WHEREAS, The humanitarian crisis has become extremely difficult in Yemen, and the danger of traveling to and from Aden is terrifying and life threatening; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The reopening of Sana'a airport will give Yemenis a lifeline and ease the humanitarian situation; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The closure of the airport, with its restrictions on commercial imports, humanitarian goods and the movement of people, disproportionately hurts civilians and therefore violates the laws of war according to the UN Human Rights Council; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, State and city officials must put pressure on the Biden administration to act on Sana'a Airport and stand against anyone who obstructs the opening of Sana'a airport for travelers and humanitarian cases; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of this Resolution to President Joseph R. Biden upon its final adoption.



## City and County of San Francisco

## **Tails**

## Resolution

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number:

211104

Date Passed: October 26, 2021

Resolution urging President Joseph R. Biden to act to reopen Sana'a Airport to civilian travel and help stop the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

October 26, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 211104

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/26/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor

11/05/2021

**Date Approved** 

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board