

1 [Celebrating Norooz.]

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3 **Resolution celebrating the Persian New Year of Norooz and proclaiming March 20,**
4 **2007, the first day of Norooz.**

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6 **WHEREAS**, Norooz in Persian means “New [year] Day”. It is the beginning of the year
7 for the people of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Tajikistan, and Persians in Syria, Iraq,
8 Georgia, Turkey, Kurdish region, and throughout other Asian republics as well as worldwide;
9 Norooz begins precisely with the beginning of spring on the vernal equinox; and,

10 **WHEREAS**, the 10,000 year old Persian heritage lies at the heart of world civilization,
11 and has contributed to it in many special ways; 2500 years ago Persia’s great leaders
12 promulgated ideas of peaceful multiculturalism, justice, equity, the rule of law, and protection
13 of the weak from the powerful; and,

14 **WHEREAS**, Norooz was officially acknowledged and named "Norooz" by mythical
15 Persian emperor, Shah Jamshid, from Achaemenid Dynasty (500 BC); and,

16 **WHEREAS**, Iranians consider Norooz as their biggest celebration of the year
17 representing Iranian culture, arts, history, and religion; and,

18 **WHEREAS**, A essential part of the New Year ritual is setting the “Haft Seen” with
19 seven representative items symbolizing a wish or theme, they are: Sabzeh (grown wheat or
20 lentil) for rebirth, Samanu (flour and sugar) for sweetness of life, Sekeh (coin) for prosperity
21 and wealth, Senjed (dried fruit of Lotus tree) for love, Seer (garlic) for health, Somaq (sumac
22 berries) for warmth and Serkeh (vinegar) for patience; and,

23 **WHEREAS**, Norooz begins on Tuesday March 20, 2007 at 04:07:26 PM, and is the
24 Iranian New Year, 2566 (1386); and,

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1 **WHEREAS**, The Iranian community has made invaluable contributions to the City and
2 County of San Francisco and to the state of California; now therefore be it,

3 **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
4 proclaims March 20, 2007, the first day of Norooz.

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