

1 [Urging the United States Department of State to condemn the Islamic Republic of Iran's
2 practice of execution by stoning]

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4 **Resolution urging the United States Department of State to condemn the Islamic**
5 **Republic of Iran's execution by stoning of Abbas Hajizadeh and Mahboubeh**
6 **Mohammadi and the impending execution by stoning of Ashraf Kolhari and Malak**
7 **Ghorbany.**

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9 WHEREAS, In May of 2006 it was reported that Abbas Hajizadeh and Mahboubeh
10 Mohammadi were executed by stoning for committing adultery and that more than 100
11 members of the Revolutionary Guards and Bassij Forces participated in the stoning; and

12 WHEREAS, Ashraf Kolhari and Malak Ghorbany have been sentenced to death by
13 stoning for committing adultery; and

14 WHEREAS, Kolhari was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for participating in the
15 murder of her husband, and she was sentenced to execution by stoning for adultery as a
16 married woman; and

17 WHEREAS, Kolhari had an extra-marital affair after her divorce request was rejected
18 by the court, reportedly on the basis that she has children; and

19 WHEREAS, Kolhari is a 37 year-old mother of four children, and Ghorbany is a 34
20 year-old mother of two young children; and

21 WHEREAS, Article 83 of the Iranian Penal Code states that the penance for adultery
22 by a married woman with an adult man is execution by stoning; and

23 WHEREAS, Article 72 of the Iranian Penal Code and Article 4 of the Implementation of
24 Execution Law state that if a person confesses to adultery and repents that the case must be
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1 referred to the Parole Commission and that the Judge can ask for pardon by the Supreme
2 Leader; and

3 WHEREAS, Ashraf Kolhari has reportedly written to Ayatollah Shahroudi, the Head of
4 Judiciary, asking for forgiveness, but there has been no report on Shahroudi considering the
5 request for a pardon; and

6 WHEREAS, In December 2002 Ayatollah Shahroudi issued a ruling to judges ordering
7 a moratorium on execution by stoning, yet the practice has continued despite the Islamic
8 Republic of Iran's promise to ban such violent and inhumane forms of punishment; and

9 WHEREAS, The United Nations Human rights Committee has made clear that treating
10 adultery and fornication as criminal offences do not comply with international human rights
11 standards; and

12 WHEREAS, Iran is a member of the International Covenant on Civil and Political
13 Rights, which has officially called for the banning of stoning and other cruel and inhumane
14 methods of execution; and

15 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco has
16 expressed its opposition to the death penalty repeatedly, including endorsing a moratorium on
17 executions in the United States in Resolution No. 632-00 and a moratorium on executions in
18 California in Resolution No. 116-00; and

19 WHEREAS, On July 22, 2006, the Iranian Embassy in France announced that Malak
20 Ghorbany's case is being re-evaluated and her original sentence is expected to be revised;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, That the Iranian government is reconsidering Ghorbany's case because of
23 international pressure has proven that symbolic statements such as this resolution can have a
24 concrete impact; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 urges the U.S. State Department to issue a strong condemnation against the Islamic Republic
3 of Iran for its practices of civil and human rights abuses, executions of minors, homosexuals
4 and adulterers, and executions by the barbaric and violent means of public stoning; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns the criminalization
6 of private, adult consensual sexual relations.

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