File No. 161168	Committee Item No.	
	Board Item No. 40	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Prepared by: Brent Jalipa Prepared by:	Date: October 27, 2016 Date:

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Resolution urging Congressional leadership to pass legislation that will fully absolve California soldiers and veterans debt for time served.

[Urging the Full Repayment of California Soldiers and Veterans for Time Served]

WHEREAS, Nearly 10,000 soldiers have been ordered by the Pentagon to repay enlistment bonuses and other pay a decade after they served valiantly in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, The National Guard offered the bonuses and student aid to reenlist soldiers at the height of the two wars in the early 2000's; and

WHEREAS, The Pentagon ordered the money paid be returned after it was later discovered in a federal investigation that the California National Guard overpaid soldiers under pressure to hit enlistment goals, which was unknown to the soldiers enlisting at the time; and

WHEREAS, If soldiers refuse to pay back their earnings, they could face interest charges, wage garnishments, and tax liens; and

WHEREAS, At least \$22,000,000 dollars of debt has been repaid by soldiers and veterans already; and

WHEREAS, At least 54 members of Congress have sent a letter to Defense Secretary Ashton Carter asking that he halt the ongoing collections; and

WHEREAS, California United States Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy have all expressed outrage at the requested payment; and

WHEREAS, Soldiers and veterans can apply for a federal review of their debt, but that the appeals process does in no way guarantee that their debts will be absolved; and

WHEREAS, Soldiers and veterans are reporting that they have had to mortgage their homes, are experiencing additional and unneeded extra stress, and many feel betrayed by the country and institutions they swore to serve; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a strong and proud history of working to support soldiers and veterans when they and their families are in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors extends its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our soldiers and veterans who were willing sacrifice their life for our country; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California National Guard and U.S. Department of Defense to immediately cease collection actions; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges congressional leadership in Washington, D.C. to pass legislation that will fully absolve these soldiers and veterans of this debt.

Print Form

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

There	eby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp 3 or meeting date
	BY	A
	1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment)	ient)
\boxtimes	2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.	
	3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	
	4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"
	5. City Attorney request.	
	6. Call File No. from Committee.	
	7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).	
	8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
	9. Reactivate File No.	
	10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
	se check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following Small Business Commission	mission ion
Sponso		
Super	rvisors Mark Farrell, John Avalos, Eric Mar, Norman Yee (O	
Subject		
Resolu	lution - Urging The Full Repayment of California Soldiers and Veterans For Time Served	
The te	ext is listed below or attached:	
Attach	hed.	
	Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	-
For C	Clerk's Use Only:	