

1 [Seeking a Permanent Halt to the Blue Angels Air Show Over San Francisco]

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**Resolution seeking a permanent halt to the annual Blue Angels air show over the City of San Francisco.**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Environmental Code Section 101 of the City and County of San Francisco, all officers, boards, commissions and departments shall implement the Precautionary Principle in conducting the City and County affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Precautionary Principle requires public servants to take anticipatory action to prevent harm and through exploration and careful analysis select courses of action that present the least threat to all; and,

WHEREAS, The Blue Angels is an elite Navy exhibition squadron that tours the United States to perform air shows, involving dare devil maneuvers and tight flight; and,

WHEREAS, Blue Angels air shows have not occurred without incident or loss of life; and,

WHEREAS, Over the past 60 years, the air show has resulted in 26 fatalities, most recently on April 21, 2007 Beaufort County, South Carolina, when Blue Angel pilot Lt. Cmdr. Kevin J. Davis, crashed with his plane into several neighborhood homes, killing himself and injuring eight people on the ground; and,

WHEREAS, Each October, the Blue Angels performs an air show over the City of San Francisco as part of the Fleet Week; and,

WHEREAS, Based on the recent history and the style of their performance in which the slightest error by a pilot or a mechanical malfunction has been known to have disastrous effects, the Blue Angels air show poses an unwarranted risk to life and property in the densely-populated, urban environment of San Francisco; and,

1           WHEREAS, The Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornet jets make a considerable amount of noise  
2 pollution with volume rising to levels that exceed legal limits for the civilian community; and,

3           WHEREAS, When the aircraft fly their simulated strafing runs over the concrete and  
4 glass canyons of San Francisco's high-rise buildings, the volume is magnified to ear splitting  
5 and nerve shattering levels; and,

6           WHEREAS, San Francisco is a Sanctuary City for many immigrants from war torn  
7 countries and home to thousands of veterans of war who have experienced air bombardment  
8 and are at risk of being traumatized when the Blue Angels perform; and,

9           WHEREAS, The jets also terrorize small children, seniors, pets and local wildlife; and,

10          WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken steps to contribute to the  
11 effort to stem global climate change and to avert the catastrophic consequences of air  
12 pollution, nevertheless, the Blue Angels spew tons of toxic exhaust during their flyovers; and,

13          WHEREAS, This is a time of under-supplies of crude oil and its byproducts, the F/A-18  
14 Hornet wastes an inordinate amount of jet fuel; and,

15          WHEREAS, The Federal deficit and national debt have risen to levels never before  
16 imagined, and the people of San Francisco have suffered from Federal cuts to vital programs;  
17 and,

18          WHEREAS, The City pays for additional support from the police and fire departments  
19 while waiving the normal \$25,000 fee to the military; now, therefore, be it

20          RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
21 support the permanent halt to flyovers of populated areas by the Blue Angels; and, be it

22          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors call on Senator Barbara Boxer,  
23 Senator Dianne Feinstein, Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Tom Lantos to use all  
24 resources at their disposal to bring a permanent halt to unnecessary flyovers by military  
25 aircraft.

\*\*Chris Daly\*\*

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**