

1 [Urging U.S. Funding of International AIDS Relief]

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3 **Resolution urging the U.S. Congress and President George W. Bush to appropriate an**
4 **additional \$500 million for global HIV/AIDS relief.**

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6 WHEREAS, Over 36 million people worldwide are believed to be infected with HIV, the
7 virus that causes AIDS, and 95% of them live in developing countries; and,

8 WHEREAS, HIV infections are growing at alarming rates in the developing world and
9 there are more than 28 million people infected in sub-Saharan Africa alone; and,

10 WHEREAS, AIDS is now killing over 8,000 people per day worldwide and has
11 surpassed the Black Death of medieval Europe as the world's number one killer; and,

12 WHEREAS, The U.S. Senate, with the support of Republican Senators Bill Frist and
13 Jesse Helms, was expected to approve spending an additional \$500 million on global AIDS
14 relief on Thursday, June 6th, but suddenly reduced that amount to \$200 million after White
15 House officials lobbied for a 60% reduction; and,

16 WHEREAS, United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has requested international
17 expenditures of \$7 billion annually to prevent the further spread of HIV and to treat those
18 already infected, and current annual U.S. funding falls far short of the necessary contribution
19 to reach this goal; and,

20 WHEREAS, The United States, as a global economic leader and one of the few nations
21 with the resources necessary to end the AIDS epidemic, has a responsibility to lead the world
22 in AIDS relief; and,

23 WHEREAS, Each day the U.S. government fails to adequately respond to the world
24 AIDS epidemic, the costs of slowing the spread of HIV spiral higher; and the negative
25 economic impact to the world economy and the resulting higher future relief expenditures by

1 the U.S. government risk the economic well being of the people of San Francisco; now,
2 therefore, be it,

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
4 hereby urges the U.S. Congress to appropriate an additional \$500 million in international
5 AIDS relief; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall send a copy
7 of this resolution to Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Nancy
8 Pelosi, and President George W. Bush.