Committee Item No.	
Board Item No	40
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## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Completed by: Andrea Ausberry	Date January 18, 2012
Completed by:	Date Date
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<sup>\*</sup>An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document is in the file.

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[Urging the National Academy of Arts and Sciences Reinstate 31 Categories of Music for GRAMMY Consideration]

Resolution urging the reinstatement of the 31 categories of music that were eliminated by the National Academy of Arts and Sciences for GRAMMY consideration on April 6, 2011.

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco, which maintains a proud tradition as a hub of cultural and musical diversity, is home and host to valuable contributors of the American musical lexicon, including numerous GRAMMY® nominated and winning composers, artists and professionals; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Arts and Sciences NARAS, An influential nonprofit 501(c)(6), is based in California and home to 30% of its 20,000+ members includes a San Francisco Chapter; and

WHEREAS, The decision to drop the thirty-one categories from GRAMMY consideration was done by secret committee without consulting the voting membership of NARAS and without local chapters' Board of Governors knowledge; and

WHEREAS, The eliminated categories include Latin Jazz, Contemporary Jazz,
Hawaiian, Cajun, Zydeco, Native American, Tejano, Classical Crossover, Instrumental Rock,
along with significant reductions in awards given to the categories of Gospel, Blues and R&B;
and

WHEREAS, Protests and meetings have occurred in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Hawaii, Chicago, New Orleans, and other national locations to resolve this severe and extremely insensitive blow to cultural expression and recognition in our country; and

WHEREAS, Respected GRAMMY-winning and nominated artists, including Paul Simon, Herbie Hancock, Bonnie Raitt, Carlos Santana, John Santos, John Calloway, Eddie Palmieri, Wayne Wallace, Bobby Sanabria and many others have joined NARAS members, colleagues, and past Chapter governors in writing letters and signing a petition with 5,000 cosigners urging NARAS to reverse their secret decision and reinstate the GRAMMY categories; and

WHEREAS, National and international media coverage (KTVU, SF Chronicle, Washington Post, CNN, MSNBC, Reuters, BBC, Wall Street Journal, etc.) has been given to the outcry against this unjust and harmful decision in over 1,200 national and international stories published and syndicated in print, broadcast, and digital formats; and

WHEREAS, NARAS has a responsibility to their voting membership to ensure ethical decision practices are maintained because the GRAMMY is considered to be the highest award achievable for music excellence in the Unites States and therefore should strive to include genres and categories of particular creative and foundational significance; and

WHEREAS, The thousands of affected musicians, engineers, manufacturers, composers, arrangers, graphic artists, publicists, distributors, and other industry professionals who work in the eliminated categories will suffer economically from not being able to participate in the GRAMMY awards; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of California consumers and patrons of these important musical traditions have also been negatively affected and disrespected by this ill-advised decision; and

WHEREAS, On November 16, 2011 the San Francisco Arts Commission unanimously passed a resolution urging NARAS to reinstate the eliminated categories; and

WHEREAS, The NARAS leadership has acknowledged that a "mistake" was made indicates that these genres should never have been eliminated in the first place; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the National Academy of Arts and Sciences to immediately reinstate the eliminated categories in order to restore integrity and diversity to the GRAMMY Awards and fulfill the organization's responsibilities to its membership and as a non-profit organization representing the interests of diverse musicians and recording professionals; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors directs its administrative staff to send copies of this resolution to NARAS National Board Chair George Flanigen, Board Secretary Glenn Lorbecki, President Neil Portnow, and to California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris.

## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp or meeting date
1. For reference to Committee:	The second secon
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.	
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. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).	
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.	
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the followin	
Small Business Commission  Youth Commission  Ethics Commis	_
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission	
ote: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a different form	
ponsor(s):	<b>11.</b>
Supervisor Mar	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ubject:	
Jrging the National Academy of Arts and Sciences Reinstate Thirty-One Categories of Music for Consideration	FRAMMY
The text is listed below or attached:	
Please see attached.	
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	
or Clerk's Use Only:	