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[Oppose Riggs Amendment to H.R. 4194 - VA-HUD Appropriations Bill]

OPPOSING THE RIGGS AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4194 - VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS BILL

WHEREAS, On July 30, 1998, the House of Representatives passed, by only two votes, the so-called Riggs Amendment to the VA-HUD Appropriations Bill; and,

WHEREAS, This amendment will restrict millions of dollars of federal housing funds earmarked for San Francisco unless the City does not use the funds to implement any section of Chapter 12B of the San Francisco Administrative Code, San Francisco's anti-discrimination ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, The VA-HUD Appropriations includes funding for homeless programs, housing programs for people living with HIV/AIDS, low-income elderly housing and lead abatement programs; and,

WHEREAS, Over 30,000 people in the City and County of San Francisco could be put in jeopardy in order to punish San Francisco for its progressive antidiscrimination government policies; and,

WHEREAS, Prohibiting the City and County of San Francisco from ensuring non-discrimination within programs under its jurisdiction represents an unprecedented intrusion in local government autonomy and marks a significant retreat in the nation's bipartisan commitment to effective civil rights enforcement; and,

WHEREAS, State and local governments have a compelling interest in expanding employment opportunities and ensuring that taxpayer dollars are not inadvertently used to subsidize discrimination; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors encourages members of the Conference Committee on H.R. 4194 to reject the Riggs Amendment to the VA-HUD Appropriations Bill.

Adopted - Board of Supervisors, San Francisco September 22, 1998

Ayes: Supervisors Ammiano Brown Katz Kaufman Leno Medina

Newsom Yaki Yee

Absent: Supervisors Bierman Teng

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco

File No. 98-1507

SEP 2 5 1998

Date Approved

ACTING

Mayor