

1 URGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO PASS H.R. 118

2 WHEREAS, The philosophical foundation of our nation rests, in part, on the premise
3 that we are all created equal regardless of race, color or creed; and,

4 WHEREAS, Across our nation, motorists of color daily experience the phenomenon of
5 racial profiling whereby law enforcement personnel use a motorist's ethnicity and race in
6 determining whether or not to stop his or her vehicle; and,

7 WHEREAS, For example, a recent case filed by the ACLU in Maryland revealed that
8 while over 75% of all drivers stopped and searched by police were African American, only
9 17% of drivers in that area were African American; and,

10 WHEREAS, Racial profiling also adversely impacts Latinos, Asian Americans and
11 other racial minorities; and,

12 WHEREAS, The Traffic Stops Statistics Study Act of 1998, H.R. 118, also known as
13 "Driving While Black," passed the US House of Representatives on March 24, 1998, and
14 would require the Department of Justice to conduct a study of stops for routine traffic
15 violations by law enforcement officers that would include consideration of such factors as race
16 or ethnicity, the approximate age of the stopped motorist, and whether a search was
17 instituted as a result of the stop; and,

18 WHEREAS, H.R. 118 merely investigates the phenomenon of racial profiling and
19 would provide us with data to determine if further action is warranted; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the United States
21 Senate to pass H.R. 118.

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.
98-1506

SEP 25 1998

Date Approved


Clerk


ACTING Mayor