File I	No.	140	738
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Committee	Item No.		
<b>Board Item</b>	No	76	•

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee		Date	
Board of Su	pervisors Meeting	Date <u>July 8, 2014</u>	
Board of Su		s)	
	Public Correspondence  (Use back side if additional spa	ace is needed)  Date <u>July 2, 2014</u> Date	

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

[Urging the Newly Elected Government of the Republic El Salvador to Respect and Uphold the Rights and Protections of Members of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Intersex Community of El Salvador]

Resolution urging the newly elected government of the Republic El Salvador to respect and uphold the rights and protections of members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Community of El Salvador.

WHEREAS, The Republic of El Salvador recently elected President Salvador Sanchez

Ceren and Vice President Oscar Ortiz of the FMLN party through an internationally
recognized fair and democratic election; and

WHEREAS, The FMLN party's platform promises to uphold civil liberties and invest in local solutions to promote El Salvador's social and economic development; and

WHEREAS, Even though sexual relationships between persons of the same sex are legal in El Salvador, a national law does not exist to prohibit discrimination explicitly on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, which has allowed for widespread discrimination and persecution to persist; and

WHEREAS, Many incidents of violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Salvadorans are neither published by the media, nor reported by the victims or their families and victims often do not report physical, verbal, psychological, religious and work-related violence they suffer because they are afraid of revealing their sexual orientation to their families or at work; and

WHEREAS, A serious aspect of violence against LGBTI people in El Salvador are the actions of organized crime groups who often target LGBTI individuals because it is believed that law enforcement will not investigate or prosecute such incidents; and

WHEREAS, Under Salvadoran law, a person can only change their name under exceptional circumstances and the name must reflect the same gender assigned at birth; therefore, transgender individuals are precluded from changing their names in accordance with their gender identity and expression, which creates barriers to their ability to exercise other liberties such as the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, According to various Salvadoran LGBTI organizations there have been at least 149 reported homicides of LGBTI Salvadorans between 1999 and 2013, though many more have gone unreported and uninvestigated; and

WHEREAS, After the change of the governing party in 2009, El Salvador has adopted a more favorable attitude towards LGBTI Salvadoran - for example, in March of 2009 the Public Health and Social Welfare Ministry passed a directive to eliminate all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation in public heath services; and

WHEREAS, In May 2010, El Salvador created the Sexual Diversity Directorate, under the Social Inclusion Secretary which works to promote the eradication of sexual orientation and gender identity based discrimination and support the creation of public policies guaranteeing basic human, economic, social, civil and political rights to persons of diverse sexuality (lesbian women, gay men, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals); and

WHEREAS, Despite these advances, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons in El Salvador continue to face serious vulnerabilities and suffer discrimination based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression; and

WHEREAS, In spite of what the Public Health Ministry's directive recommends, this policy has not been publicized or explained to public officers, resulting in LGBTI persons continuing to be mistreated in public health services because of their sexual orientation or physical appearance - for example, trans women's gender identity and expression are not

recognized by health centers and they are often treated as men, barring them from access to holistic health care, including medical, psychological, sexual and reproductive care; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area is home to a large and vibrant Salvadoran community of nearly 50,000 people and has a longstanding history of supporting the advancement of human rights in El Salvador, evidenced by the important role it played during the Sanctuary Movement of the 1980's in which San Francisco provided a safe-have for Central American refugees fleeing civil conflict in El Salvador and throughout Central America; and

WHEREAS, June is the month of San Francisco Pride and this year's theme, "Color Our World with Pride," symbolizes the ongoing efforts to combat oppression and elevate the dignity and freedoms of LGBTI people in the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Organizations based in the San Francisco Bay Area including ALDES (Asistencia Legal Para la Diversidad Sexual), the SHARE (Salvadoran Humanitarian Aid, Research and Education) Foundation and CARECEN (Central American Resource Center) have engaged in international solidarity work to promote greater protections against violence and discrimination for LGBTI Salvadorans; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2014 CARECEN, in partnership with the SHARE Foundation led a San Francisco Bay Area delegation to El Salvador that participated as international election observers and met with local community leaders to discuss human rights including LGBTI rights issues; and

WHEREAS, ALDES and the UC Berkeley School of Law, International Human Rights
Clinic conducted an investigative report on the climate of human rights for LGBTI persons in
El Salvador and made specific recommendations based on their findings; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges the newly elected government of the Republic of El Salvador to adopt all necessary legal, administrative and/or

judicial measures to guarantee the protection and promotion of human rights without any distinction based on a person's sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. In particular, we urge that the new administration:

- a) Pass anti-discrimination legislation explicitly protecting LGBTI individuals from all forms
  of discrimination, including in education and employment, in both the public and private
  sector; and
- b) Pass legislation providing for the legal recognition of the right to identity and permitting individuals to change their name and gender on official identity documents (DUI) without any requirement of sexual reassignment surgery or other medical interventions. In the interim, allow transgender individuals to use the "also known as" option to include the name with which they identify on their DUI; and
- c) Proceed with effective and transparent police investigations on past and present incidents causing human rights violations against persons on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity; and
- d) Clearly define what constitutes a hate crime and implement a hate crime law. Collect data on LGBTI crime victims and establish a system for classifying those crimes which could be considered LGBTI hate crimes; and
- e) Implement a comprehensive LGBTI sensitivity training plan in cooperation with the Sexual Diversity Directorate for all government employees, including police, health and education sector employees.



## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I he	reby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp or meeting date
	1. For reference to Committee.	
	An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.	
$\boxtimes$	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.	- 2
	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	
Plea	se check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following Small Business Commission    Youth Commission    Ethics Commission	-
	☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission	ı ·
Note:	For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative	
Spons	or(s):	
Camp	oos, Wiener, Avalos, <i>Mar</i>	
Subje	ect:	
1	ution Urging the Newly Elected Government of the Republic El Salvador to Respect and Upletions of Members of the LGBTI Community of El Salvador	hold the Rights and
The to	ext is listed below or attached:	
Please	e see attached resolution.	
I kind	ly request that this be sent to the Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee.	
	Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	
For C	Clerk's Use Only:	