File No. 141108

Committee Item No._ Board Item No.___ 27

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee:_ Board of Supervisors Meeting Date_ Date November 4 Lon

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Comp	leted b	by: John Carroll Date October 23, 2014
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AMENDED IN BOARD 10/28/14

FILE NO. 141108

RESOLUTION NO.

[Condemning Anti-Arab and Anti-Muslim Bus Advertisements]

Resolution standing with Muslim and Arab communities in the face of anti-Arab and anti-Muslim bus advertisements.

WHEREAS, San Franciscans have come from around the world, and at its core, the City and County of San Francisco celebrates diversity, stands for acceptance, and has fought bigotry and racism; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has many Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim and South Asian (AMEMSA) residents; and

WHEREAS, Members of AMEMSA communities have been subjected to pervasive discrimination and hate crimes in the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11, 2001;and

WHEREAS, American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI) was co-founded by Pamela Geller, AFDI has been designated by the Southern Law Poverty Center (SLPC) as an anti-Muslim hate group, and Geller has been designated by SLPC as an anti-Muslim hate extremist; and

WHEREAS, In August of 2012, the AFDI submitted offensive, bigoted bus advertisements to the San Francisco Municipal Transit Authority (SFMTA) that referred to Muslims and Arabs as savages; and

WHEREAS, The SFMTA Director and Chair and 75 organizations and 35 community leaders representing diverse communities and civil rights, labor and social justice organizations, including the Muslim, Arab, Palestinian, African-American, Asian-American, Latino, LGBT and Jewish communities, spoke in solidarity together with AMEMSA communities in condemnation of the advertisements; and

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WHEREAS, In San Francisco, members of the Muslim and Arab communities were deeply harmed by advertisements, and organized a community forum on January 31, 2013, with city leadership in attendance to discuss the pervasive environment of bullying and discrimination directed at the Muslim and Arab communities; and

WHEREAS, The AFDI have resumed publication of offensive advertisements that denigrate Muslims and Arabs on SFMTA buses on October 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, In response to the latest advertisements, the SFMTA created the "Peace Campaign" to promote a positive message of peace, love, respect, and acceptance, and will run its "Peace Campaign" on vehicles through the end of 2014; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors stands with its AMEMSA communities in the condemnation of the Islamophobic and racist advertisements notwithstanding that the advertisements may have First Amendment protections; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors encourages fellow community leaders and residents to speak out against these advertisements and stand in solidarity with members of the Muslim and Arab communities against the hate being directed at them.

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Prin	TE Form	1
•	Introduction Form By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor	
I her	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 Amendme	nt)
\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.	
	9. Reactivate File No.	. 1
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□ Plea	10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	-
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