

1 [Urging a Full Pardon of Kang Hen and to Vacate His Plea to Remain in the United States]

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3 **Resolution urging the Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor of California, to grant Kang**  
4 **Hen a full pardon, and the Santa Clara District Attorney’s Office to vacate his plea to**  
5 **allow him to remain in the United States with his family.**

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7 WHEREAS, Kang Hen came to the United States as a small child fleeing genocide that  
8 killed much of his family in Cambodia; and

9 WHEREAS, Like many immigrants who sought refuge in the United States, Kang Hen  
10 grew up in an impoverished and violent part of an urban city, specifically San Jose in the  
11 1980’s, which increases the exposure to the risk factors that lead to crime; and

12 WHEREAS, Immediately after his 18th birthday in 1994, Kang Hen was arrested for  
13 driving two friends away from a robbery attempt; and

14 WHEREAS, Kang Hen was charged as an accomplice in the robbery by the Santa  
15 Clara District Attorney and was failed to be convicted by the jury twice; and

16 WHEREAS, After spending four years in jail without conviction, Kang Hen accepted a  
17 plea deal that would allow him to get credit for time served without realizing that he would be  
18 ordered to be deported; and

19 WHEREAS, Since his arrest in 1994, Kang Hen has had no further interaction with law  
20 enforcement and has devoted his life to helping his community through Buddhism for the last  
21 25 years; and

22 WHEREAS, Kang Hen has worked hard at the same company for the last 15 years to  
23 support his family; and

24 WHEREAS, Kang Hen has been with his partner, Ruth, for the last 17 years and  
25 together, they have a three-year old child; and

1           WHEREAS, Ruth is currently suffering from kidney and heart failure and needs the  
2 support of her partner, Kang Hen, who has been her anchor, to take care of their family; and

3           WHEREAS, On April 1, 2019, Kang Hen was ordered to surrender himself to the  
4 Immigration and Customs Enforcement for immediate deportation to Cambodia; and

5           WHEREAS, On April 2, 2019, the San Francisco Board of Supervisor unanimously  
6 passed File No. 190320, which is a resolution respectfully urging the Trump Administration to  
7 stop the massive deportation of rehabilitated formerly incarcerated Southeast Asian nationals;  
8 now, therefore, be it

9           RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco does not support the removal  
10 of Kang Hen from the United States; and, be it

11          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Governor  
12 Newsom to grant Kang Hen a full pardon to be able to remain lawfully in the United States  
13 with his wife, his family, and his community; and, be it

14          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Santa  
15 Clara County District Attorney’s Office to vacate Kang Hen’s plea to allow his deportation case  
16 to be reopened and remain in the United States; and, be it

17          FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to Federal and State  
18 Representatives in San Francisco, the San Francisco Immigration Court and be provided to  
19 Kang Hen’s counsel for appropriate distribution.