

1 [Resolution Urging the United States Enter into a Strong International Treaty to Address
2 Climate Change]

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4 **Resolution urging the President of the United States, at the UN Climate Change**
5 **conference scheduled for December, 2009 in Copenhagen, to negotiate and sign, the**
6 **Senate to ratify and the Congress of the United States to support legislatively a strong**
7 **Treaty to address Climate Change.**

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9 WHEREAS, The world's leading climate scientists have documented a clear global
10 warming trend and the unmistakable impact of human activities on that trend; and

11 WHEREAS, Global warming of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific
12 community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout
13 the world including devastating sea-level rise; and

14 WHEREAS, The International Panel on Climate Change has determined that stabilizing
15 concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere will require emission reductions of 25-
16 40% below 1990 levels by the year 2020 and 50-85% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

17 WHEREAS, The federal government has thus far failed to take sufficient action in
18 climate protection; and

19 WHEREAS, Achieving greenhouse gas emission reductions required to protect the
20 climate is of overriding importance not just to the community of nations but to the City and
21 County of San Francisco which, with only a modest 3three foot rise in sea level, would see
22 Mission Bay housing and office developments, Caltrain tracks, Candlestick Point
23 redevelopment, Heron's Head Park and the city's sewage-treatment system on Islais Creek,
24 parts of Treasure Island and the San Francisco airport under water; and
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1 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken multiple steps to address
2 climate change including establishing city-wide policy for the reduction of San Francisco's
3 Municipal operations carbon footprint, reduction of the use of plastic bags, increasing the
4 amount of renewable energy generated and consumed in the City, and incentivizing use of
5 transit; and

6 WHEREAS, The City and County has consistently sought to raise awareness of climate
7 change through the legislative process by adopting resolutions supporting and endorsing
8 Statewide legislative enactments such as AB32, AB 2573, and SB1; and

9 WHEREAS, Greenhouse gas reduction activities contribute substantially to the
10 achievement of many of the City's highest priority goals, including but not limited to: energy
11 security and cost reduction; affordable housing; mobility and, transportation choices; solid
12 waste reduction and recycling; sustainable economic development; and clean air; now,
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the City and county of San Francisco
15 hereby calls upon the President of the United States sign a legally binding international
16 greenhouse gas reduction treaty at the UN climate talks in Copenhagen in December 2009
17 and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That such treaty commits rich industrialized countries like the
19 US to greenhouse gas reductions of at least 40% below 1990 levels by the year 2020 and
20 85% below 1990 levels by 2050; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That such treaty establishes a global fund of at least \$140
22 billion to assist developing countries to continue growing their economies using renewable
23 sources of energy like wind and solar instead of fossil fuels, and to adapt to unavoidable
24 climate change; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That such treaty commits the world to protecting the world's
2 forests and in particular tropical rainforests, the elimination of which represents nearly 20% of
3 global greenhouse gases; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That a treaty containing such terms be promptly ratified by
5 the United States Senate upon presentation by the President of the United States; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County hereby
7 urges the United States House of Representatives and Senate in Congress assembled adopt
8 legislation that ensures the fulfillment of such a treaty; and be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board forward a fully conformed copy of
10 this resolution to the Federal legislative delegation representing San Francisco, the President
11 of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, President pro Tem and Majority
12 Leader of the United States Senate, and Majority Leader of the United States House of
13 Representatives.