FILE NO. 091364 RESOLUTION NO. 488-09

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Achieving greenhouse gas emission reductions required to protect the climate is of overriding importance not just to the community of nations but to the City and County of San Francisco which, with only a modest three foot rise in sea level, would see Mission Bay housing and office developments, Caltrain tracks, Candlestick Point redevelopment, Heron's Head Park and the city's sewage-treatment system on Islais Creek, parts of Treasure Island and the San Francisco airport under water; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken multiple steps to address climate change including establishing city-wide policy for the reduction of San Francisco's Municipal operations carbon footprint, reduction of the use of plastic bags, increasing the amount of renewable energy generated and consumed in the City, and incentivizing use of transit; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 091364 **Date Passed:** December 08, 2009

Resolution urging the President of the United States, at the UN Climate Change Conference scheduled for December 2009 in Copenhagen, to negotiate and sign, the Senate to ratify and the Congress of the United States to support legislatively a strong treaty to address climate change.

December 08, 2009 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell and Mirkarimi

File No. 091364

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 12/8/2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

18 December 2009
Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom