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[Celebrating Nowruz, the Persian New Year]

Resolution recognizing and appreciating the cultural contributions of Persian culture to modern society on the occasion of the celebration of Nowruz, the Persian New Year.

WHEREAS, Nowruz originated in ancient Persia more than 3,000 years ago and marks the traditional Iranian New Year beginning on the vernal equinox and celebrates the arrival of spring; and,

WHEREAS, Nowruz, meaning a "New Day," symbolizes a time of renewal and a recommitment to community, heralds the arrival a new year as it ushers out the hardships previous season and brings hope for the future; and,

WHEREAS, In 539 B.C., Cyrus the Great established one of the earliest charters on human rights, which abolished slavery and allowed for freedom of religion, and this marker in Iranian history has had significant impact on the respect for human rights that Iranian-Americans carry today; and,

WHEREAS, Nowruz embodies the tradition that each individual's thinking, speaking, and conduct should always be virtuous, and the ideal of compassion for our fellow human beings regardless of ethnicity or religion, and symbolizes a time of renewal and community

WHEREAS, This past year the Iranian-American community has upheld the finest of American traditions through organizing of rallies in support of democratic rights in response to Iran's disputed presidential election and subsequent repression of peaceful demonstrations and human rights; and,

WHEREAS; These rallies reached an apex on July 25, 2009 with demonstrations coordinated world-wide including a peaceful rally in San Francisco which attracted approximately 10,000 participants; and,

WHEREAS, The renewed sense of community that has come through organizing the demonstrations has re-energized the Iranian-American community throughout California and the United States in the finest tradition of Nowruz; and,

WHEREAS, Nowruz serves to remind us of the many noteworthy and lasting contributions of Persian culture to the social and economic fabric of today's modern society; and,

WHEREAS, The Iranian-American community continues to enrich the tapestry of the diversity in the San Francisco and the Bay Area generally, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby recognizes and appreciates the cultural and historical significance of Nowruz; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco expresses its appreciation for the contributions of Persian culture to today's modern society on the occasion of the celebration of Nowruz; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco by and through its Board of Supervisors wishes Iranian-Americans, the people of Iran and all those who observe this holiday a prosperous new year.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number:

100366

Date Passed: March 23, 2010

Resolution recognizing and appreciating the cultural contributions of Persian culture to modern society on the occasion of the celebration of Nowruz, the Persian New Year.

March 23, 2010 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell and

yor Gavin Nev

Excused: 1 - Alioto-Pier

File No. 100366

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/23/2010 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board