File No.	210968

Committee Item	No	
Board Item No.	35	

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee:		Date:	
Board of Supervisors Meeting		Date:	September 21, 2021
Cmte Board	d		
	Motion Resolution Ordinance Legislative Digest Budget and Legislative Analyst Youth Commission Report Introduction Form Department/Agency Cover Lett MOU Grant Information Form Grant Budget Subcontract Budget Contract/Agreement Form 126 – Ethics Commission Award Letter Application Public Correspondence	er and/	
OTHER			
Prepared by: Prepared by:	Lisa Lew	Date:	September 17, 2021

1	[International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances - August 30, 2021]
2	
3	Resolution retroactively declaring August 30 as International Day of the Victims of
4	Enforced Disappearances, and observing this date every year thereafter, and
5	condemning enforced disappearances in El Salvador.
6	
7	WHEREAS, The United Nations declared August 30th the International Day of Victims
8	of Enforced Disappearances; and
9	WHEREAS, El Salvador endured a civil war from 1980 through 1992 that displaced
10	500,000 people, forced the migration of approximately 1 million, killed 75,000, and forcibly
11	disappeared at least another 10,000; and
12	WHEREAS, The United States government provided more than \$4 billion in U.S. tax
13	dollars for training and aid to the Salvadoran military in support of government and military
14	repression of its people; and
15	WHEREAS, Over 2 million Salvadorans currently live and work in the United States,
16	forming the third largest Latino community in the country, with over 16,000 Salvadorans
17	residing in San Francisco, according to the latest Census data; and
18	WHEREAS, Families and communities of the victims of forced disappearance
19	experience significant post-traumatic stress disorder, slow mental anguish and torture,
20	alternating between hope and despair, wondering and waiting, often for years, for news that
21	may never arrive; and
22	WHEREAS, Enforced Disappearances deprive families and communities the right to
23	know the truth about their loved ones, and deny justice and reparation as impunity
24	compounds the anguish and trauma; and
25	

1	WHEREAS, Enforced Disappearance is not an issue of the past, but an appalling
2	strategy and human rights violation used across the world as a method of repression, terror,
3	and stifling dissent; and
4	WHEREAS, Families and societies deserve the right to know the truth about what
5	happened to their loved ones in order to heal and find peace from the decades of torture
6	caused by burying truths with impunity; and
7	WHEREAS, The United Nations declared Enforced Disappearance a crime against
8	humanity in its 1992 Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced
9	Disappearance and established a Committee and Working Group on Enforced
10	Disappearances; and
11	WHEREAS, El Salvador's National Assembly and President have not ratified the
12	United Nations International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced
13	Disappearance; and
14	WHEREAS, The act of remembrance honors and dignifies the victims, their families,
15	and devastated communities, and constructs bridges to transmit historical memory to younge
16	generations of Salvadoran Americans; and
17	WHEREAS, Mothers and relatives of the disappeared in El Salvador and abroad have
18	not given up the search for the truth of the experiences and whereabouts of their loved ones,
19	demanding that the Salvadoran National Assembly recognize and enact the International Day
20	of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, 30 August; now, therefore, be it
21	RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors declares August 30th as the International
22	Day of the Victims Enforced Disappearances in the City and County of San Francisco; and
23	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors observes the International Day
24	of the Victims Enforced Disappearances annually with a special tribute to Salvadorans in the
25	United States and, specifically, in San Francisco; and

1	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors calls on the Salvadoran
2	National Assembly to recognize and declare August 30 The International Day of the Victims of
3	Enforced Disappearances, and requests that President Biden declassify U.S. records that
4	relate to disappearances and other human rights violations that took place during the civil war;
5	and
6	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
7	Francisco further directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the
8	President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of
9	Representatives, and to the U.S. Senators for the State of California upon passage.
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## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp or meeting date I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one): 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment). ✓ 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 inquiries" 5. City Attorney Request. 6. Call File No. from Committee. 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion). 8. Substitute Legislation File No. 9. Reactivate File No. 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following: Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission Ethics Commission **Building Inspection Commission** Planning Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form. Sponsor(s): Myrna Melgar Subject: Observance of August 30 as International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, and Condemning Enforced Disappearances in El Salvador The text is listed: Resolution retroactively declaring August 30 International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, and observing this date every year thereafter, and condemning enforced disappearances in El Salvador

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: Melgar

For Clerk's Use Only