

1 [Supporting Eddy Zheng's application to remain lawfully in the United States]

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3 **Resolution urging The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor of California, to**
4 **grant Xiao Fei "Eddy" Zheng a full pardon and allow him to remain in the United States**
5 **and to continue to serving youth in the San Francisco Bay Area community.**

6 WHEREAS, Xiao Fei "Eddy" Zheng lawfully immigrated to the United States from the
7 People's Republic of China with his family in 1982 and has lived in the United States since the
8 age of twelve as a lawful permanent resident; and,

9 WHEREAS, after serving 19 years within the California Department of Corrections
10 following an adult conviction for kidnapping for purposes of robbery at the age of 16, Eddy
11 was granted parole by the California Board of Prison Terms in 2004; and,

12 WHEREAS, in 2005, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger reviewed and allowed to stand
13 that parole grant based on the uncontested evidence of Eddy Zheng's rehabilitation and
14 suitability for parole; such evidence included demonstrating extensive remorse for his crime,
15 learning English, obtaining a G.E.D. and an A.A. degree, serving in leadership capacities in
16 Toastmasters, S.Q.U.I.R.E.S. (San Quentin Utilization of Inmate Resources, Experiences, and
17 Studies), Anti-Violence Project workshops, and dedicating his life to help others achieve a
18 similar level of rehabilitation; and,

19 WHEREAS, subsequent to his release, Eddy Zheng has demonstrated his deep
20 commitment to working with young people, particularly underserved Asian-American at-risk
21 youth, as a project manager at the Community Youth Center, where he has mediated youth
22 conflicts and coordinated activities to educate, employ, and empower youth; and,

23 WHEREAS, San Francisco Mayor Newsom appointed Eddy Zheng in 2009 to the San
24 Francisco Reentry Council, which assists ex-offenders in transitioning back into society; and,

1 WHEREAS, Eddy Zheng has served as a member of the San Francisco Central Police
2 Station Citizen Advisory Board, National Advisory board member of the Asian American Law
3 Journal, member of the Asian Prisoners' Support Committee, and also published an anthology
4 of the prison experience from the Asian American experience; and,

5 WHEREAS, Eddy Zheng has won numerous awards from community organizations
6 and the California State Legislature's Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus for his
7 leadership in building bridges, serving underserved at-risk youth, and working to make San
8 Francisco safer; and,

9 WHEREAS, The removal of Eddy Zheng from the United States would be a waste of
10 the resources spent on his rehabilitation and a loss of a significant community leader; and,

11 WHEREAS, The removal of Eddy Zheng cannot be justified as punishment since his 19
12 years of incarceration were found by the Board of Prison Terms to be sufficient punishment
13 for the offense; and,

14 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a similar Resolution 139-
15 06 with a 10-0 vote on February 28, 2006, which asked the Department of Homeland Security
16 to allow Eddy Zheng to remain in the United States; and,

17 WHEREAS, Eddy Zheng has been recognized by public leaders including U.S.
18 Representatives Michael M. Honda and Judy Chu, former California State Senators John
19 Burton, Sheila J. Kuehl, Don Perata, and Byron Sher, State Senators Carol Liu, Mark Leno,
20 Loni Hancock, Gloria Romero, and Leland Yee, former State Assemblywoman Wilma Chan,
21 former San Quentin State Prison Warden Art Calderon, and by both his prosecuting attorney
22 and sentencing judge, who recognized that Eddy Zheng's rehabilitation justifies his release
23 back to the community; and,

1 WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the City and County of San Francisco, as well as the
2 larger community, that Eddy Zheng be permitted to remain lawfully in the United States; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco does not support the removal
5 of Xiao Fei “Eddy” Zheng from the United States; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Governor
7 Schwarzenegger to grant Eddy Zheng a full pardon to be able to remain lawfully in the United
8 States, with his wife, his family, and his community; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to federal and state
10 representatives in San Francisco, and be provided to Eddy Zheng’s counsel for appropriate
11 distribution.