

1 [Urging President Joseph R. Biden to Take Action on Sana'a Airport]

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3 **Resolution urging President Joseph R. Biden to act to reopen Sana'a Airport to civilian**
4 **travel and help stop the ongoing humanitarian crisis.**

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6 WHEREAS, Yemen is going through the worst humanitarian crisis in the modern era;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Over seven years of civil war, regional war, and a suffocating siege, has
9 caused one of the worst famines in the history of Yemen; and

10 WHEREAS, On August 9,2016, Yemen's main airport closed after the Saudi-led
11 coalition imposed restrictions on the country's airspace; and

12 WHEREAS, Due to lack of medical supplies, diseases have spread and caused havoc
13 through the country causing the number of deaths in the country to double; and

14 WHEREAS, In light of this tragic humanitarian crisis, the main supporters of the
15 Yemeni people have become those living abroad, especially Yemeni Americans, who provide
16 support to their families, and neighbors; and

17 WHEREAS, As Yemen's main airport, Sana'a used to be the gateway connecting
18 millions of Yemenis to the outside world, hosting as many as 6,000 passengers a day, and
19 more than 2 million passengers every year; and

20 WHEREAS, When a Yemeni American travels to Yemen to visit their family, they are
21 forced to travel through Aden Airport in southern Yemen, and from there a treacherous, and
22 dangerous journey awaits him; and

23 WHEREAS, Not only is the road from Aden to various cities in Yemen long, taking up
24 to 15 hours by car, but the road is also unsafe because of the numerous checkpoints along
25 the way; and

1 WHEREAS, Recently, a young man by the name of Abdul Malik Al-Sanabani, who had
2 been in the United States for over seven years, was brutally killed at one of the checkpoints in
3 Aden; and

4 WHEREAS, Yemenis have been stripped of their right to travel abroad to seek medical
5 care, conduct business, study or visit family; and

6 WHEREAS, Hundreds of students have missed out on opportunities to study abroad or
7 take up scholarships; and

8 WHEREAS, The humanitarian crisis has become extremely difficult in Yemen, and the
9 danger of traveling to and from Aden is terrifying and life threatening; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, The reopening of Sana'a airport will give Yemenis a lifeline and ease the
11 humanitarian situation; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, The closure of the airport, with its restrictions on commercial
13 imports, humanitarian goods and the movement of people, disproportionately hurts civilians
14 and therefore violates the laws of war according to the UN Human Rights Council; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, State and city officials must put pressure on the Biden
16 administration to act on Sana'a Airport and stand against anyone who obstructs the opening
17 of Sana'a airport for travelers and humanitarian cases; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
19 to send a copy of this Resolution to President Joseph R. Biden upon its final adoption.

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