URGING PRESIDENT VICENTE FOX OF MEXICO TO CONSIDER AND ADDRESS ISSUES IMPORTANT TO THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IN MEXICO AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF HIS NATIONAL POLICY AND FURTHER URGING PRESIDENT FOX TO COLLABORATE WITH GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN MEXICO TO FORMULATE POLICY TO ENSURE THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF MEXICO’S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER ARE PROTECTED.

WHEREAS, The country of México has a large, vibrant population of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender citizens; and

WHEREAS, Social progress, education, economic development and greater political awareness in Mexico has enabled many gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals and activists to openly declare their sexual orientation without fear of political and social repercussions; and

WHEREAS, There is an increasing awareness and tolerance amongst the people of Mexico of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community within their own city, province and nation; and

WHEREAS, Like other minorities and marginalized groups in México, the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community still experiences political and social discrimination, physical and verbal assaults as well as denial of basic social rights afforded to the heterosexuals; and

Supervisors Ammiano, Bierman, Katz, Leno
WHEREAS, In 1994, an intense campaign of harassment was launched in the City of Chihuahua in which law enforcement officials targeted gay men and transvestites including verbal harassment, threats, assault, massive police sweeps of bars and private homes, destroying private property, extortion, arbitrary arrests, illegal detention, illegal levying of fines for “offending public morality” and torture while in custody, and

WHEREAS, In December of 1995, an American lesbian couple, Livit Callentine and Holly Babe Faust, were returning to the U.S. from Guadalajara on Mexican Airlines; and

WHEREAS, The American couple were accused of “immoral behavior” for holding hands by flight captain Arturo Trujillo Vizcarra who proceeded to have them taken off the plane by six security guards; and

WHEREAS, They were driven in a van for two hours and denied overnight accommodations and were initially denied the right to retrieve their luggage; and

WHEREAS, The harassment, kidnapping, torture, imprisonment and murder of members of the indigenous communities in México as well as human rights workers in Mexico continues; and

WHEREAS; In October 1997, the Catholic Church backed organization, Pro-VIDA launched a campaign against CONASIDA, the Mexican government’s National AIDS Prevention and Control Program; and

WHEREAS; In addition to suing CONASIDA to halt the AIDS prevention program, the Pro-VIDA group with the backing of Archbishop Monsignor Norbeto Rivera, has pressured the government to label condom wrappers with “This product may be hazardous to your health”, thus contributing to the spread of misinformation of condom use and the spread of AIDS; and
WHEREAS, These brief examples are but indicative of the type of educational work that needs to be done to ensure that the members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender are treated with the same respect and dignity and are allowed the same political rights as any other citizen; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco residents of Mexican descent number over 68,000 in the City of San Francisco and the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community number over 70,000; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican-American community and the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender in San Francisco are directly impacted by the human rights violation as well as the political and economic instabilities in México; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of San Francisco desire to establish the policies herein for the purposes of stimulating public discussion, influencing the views of their fellow Americans and affecting the formulation and implementation of the foreign policy of the United States Congress; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges president Vicente Fox of México to consider and address issues important to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in México as an integral part of his national policy and further urging President Fox to collaborate with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender organizations within México to formulate policy to ensure the rights and dignity of México’s gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender are protected; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors request the Clerk of the Board send a copy of this resolution to President Vicente Fox of México as well as the Mexican embassy in San Francisco.

SUPERVISORS AMMIANO
File Number: 001635             Date Passed: 

Resolution urging President Vicente Fox of Mexico to consider and address issues important to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in Mexico as an integral part of his national policy and further urging President Fox to collaborate with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender organizations within Mexico to formulate policy to ensure the rights and dignity of Mexico's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender are protected.

September 25, 2000  Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 6 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Katz, Leno, Yaki
Absent: 5 - Brown, Kaufman, Newsom, Teng, Yee
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on September 25, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.