RESOLUTION COMMENDING DOLORES HUERTA FOR HER WORK AS CO-FOUNDER OF THE UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION AND HER YEARS OF SERVICE AS A LEGENDARY LABOR LEADER AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST.

WHEREAS, Dolores C. Huerta is the co-founder and Secretary-Treasurer of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO ("UFW"); and,

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta was born on April 10, 1930 in northern New Mexico, where her father, Juan Fernandez, was a miner, field worker, union activist and state assemblyman; and,

WHEREAS, Her mother Alicia Chavez raised Dolores, along with her two brothers and two sisters in Stockton, California; and,

WHEREAS, After high school, Dolores Huerta attended the University of Pacific's Delta Community College and received a teaching degree; and,

WHEREAS, In 1955, Dolores Huerta was a founding member of the Stockton chapter of the Community Service Organization ("CSO"), a grassroots organization began by Fred Ross, Sr. The CSO battled segregation, police brutality, led voter registration drives, pushed for improved public services and fought to enact new legislation; and,

WHEREAS, In 1960, Dolores Huerta organized and founded the Agricultural Workers Association. She became a fearless lobbyist in
Sacramento, and in 1961 succeeded in obtaining the citizenship requirements removed from pension, and public assistance programs. In 1962 she lobbied in Washington DC for an end to the "captive labor" Bracero Program.

WHEREAS, In 1962, Dolores Huerta joined her former colleague Cesar Chavez and formed the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA); and,

WHEREAS, In September of 1965 Dolores Huerta and the NFWA organized the first successful grape strike for grape workers in the Delano area; and,

WHEREAS, In 1966, Dolores Huerta negotiated the first UFWOC contract with the Schenley Wine Company. This was the first time in the history of the United States that a negotiating committee comprised of farm workers negotiated a collective bargaining agreement with an agricultural corporation; and,

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta directed the UFW's national grape boycott, taking the plight of the farm workers to the consumers. The boycott resulted in the entire California table grape industry signing a three-year collective bargaining agreement with the United Farm Workers; and,

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta directed the east coast boycott of grapes, lettuce, and Gallo wines. The boycott resulted in the enactment of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act; and,

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta is the recipient of many awards, among them the

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Outstanding Labor Leader Award awarded by the California State Senate; she was also inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame; the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty Award; the Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award; the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award; the Consumers’ Union Trumpeter’s Award; and in 1998 she was one of three Ms. Magazine’s, "Women of the Year", and the Ladies Home Journal’s, "100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century"; and,

WHEREAS, Aside from currently serving as the Secretary-Treasurer of the United Farm Workers, Dolores Huerta is the vice-president for the Coalition for Labor Union Women, the vice-president of the California AFL-CIO, and is a board member for the Fund For The Feminist Majority; and,

WHEREAS, At 70, Dolores Huerta still works long hours for the union she co-founded and nurtured. Many days find her in cities across North America promoting "La Causa" (the farm workers’ cause) and women’s rights; and,

WHEREAS, For more than thirty years Dolores Huerta remained Cesar Chavez' most loyal and trusted advisor. Together they founded the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan, the Juan De La Cruz Farm Worker Pension Fund, the Farm Workers Credit Union, the first medical and pension plan and credit union for farm workers. They also formed the National Farm Workers Service Center, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby commends Dolores Huerta for her work as co-

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founder of the United Farm Workers Union and her years of service as a legendary labor leader and civil rights activist, and wishes her success in her future endeavors and her ongoing work with “la causa” the cause for farm workers rights.
Resolution commending Dolores Huerta for her work as co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union and her years of service as a legendary labor leader and civil rights activist.

January 16, 2001  Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Leno, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee

File No. 010018
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on January 16, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Jean Lum
Acting Clerk of the Board

Date Approved
JAN 26 2001

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.