

1 [Commendation]

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, In 1960, Dolores Huerta organized and founded the  
25 Agricultural Workers Association. She became a fearless lobbyist in

1 Sacramento, and in 1961 succeeded in obtaining the citizenship  
2 requirements removed from pension, and public assistance programs. In  
3 1962 she lobbied in Washington DC for an end to the "captive labor"  
4 Bracero Program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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1 founder of the United Farm Workers Union and her years of service as  
2 a legendary labor leader and civil rights activist, and wishes her  
3 success in her future endeavors and her ongoing work with "la causa"  
4 the cause for farm workers rights.  
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City and County of San Francisco

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Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 010018

Date Passed:

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

JAN 26 2001

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.