Resolution urging the San Francisco Unified School District to pursue the Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s school bus retrofit program which covers the cost of installing particulate traps on existing diesel busses.

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco has a responsibility to minimize the impact of City services on the environment in order to promote the well being of city residents; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Unified School District currently contracts with Laidlaw Company to operate 203 school busses for the transportation of students at the K-12 level; and,

WHEREAS, These buses rely on diesel fuel without any particulate trap mechanisms or modified diesel; and,

WHEREAS, Emissions from these school buses are linked with adverse health effects such as respiratory disease; and,

WHEREAS, The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a non-profit environmental organization, did a study in February 2001 which showed that a child riding on a diesel school bus may be exposed to a cancer risk that is 23 to 46 times greater than the risk considered “significant” by the Environmental Protection Agency; and,

Mark Leno, Sophie Maxwell, Jake McGoldrick, Chris Daly, Aaron Peskin
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WHEREAS, According to the NRDC, 2,600 clean alternative fuel busses, such as those that are run on natural gas and propane, are in use nationally by universities and schools; and,

WHEREAS, BAAQMD has set aside funds earmarked to help public school fleet operators cover the incremental costs of purchasing cleaner alternatives; and,

WHEREAS, While Laidlaw, a privately owned school bus operator, would not be eligible for BAAQMD fleet replacement funds, Laidlaw is eligible for BAAQMD’s school bus retrofit program which would pay for installation of particulate traps on existing diesel busses, if Laidlaw commits to purchasing Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the San Francisco Unified School District to pursue the Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s school bus retrofit program which covers the cost of installing particulate traps on existing diesel busses; and, be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall send a copy of this resolution to the San Francisco Unified School District.

Mark Leno, Sophie Maxwell

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Resolution urging the San Francisco Unified School District to pursue the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's school bus retrofit program which covers the cost of installing particulate traps on existing diesel busses.

August 27, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee
Absent: 2 - Daly, Newsom

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on August 27, 2001 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.