

1 **[Opposing the United States of America’s Department of the Navy’s proposed**
2 **deployment of surveillance towed array sensor system low frequency active (SURTASS**
3 **LFA) sonar.]**

4 **Resolution opposing the United States of America’s Department of the Navy’s**
5 **proposed deployment of surveillance towed array sensor system low frequency active**
6 **(SURTASS LFA) sonar.**

7
8 WHEREAS, The United States Navy is requesting a Letter of Authorization from the
9 National Marine Fisheries Service under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) in order
10 to facilitate its proposed Surveillance Towed Array Sensor System (SURTASS) Low
11 Frequency Active (LFA) sonar program; and

12 WHEREAS, The Navy states that the proposed SURTASS LFA sonar program would
13 meet the need for improved detection of foreign submarines, thereby providing the Navy with
14 adequate time to react to, and defend against, submarine warfare; and

15 WHEREAS, During deployment, the proposed SURTASS LFA sonar systems would
16 introduce low-frequency acoustic signals into the world's oceans that could potentially affect
17 marine life; and

18 WHEREAS, The preservation of biodiversity and protection of whales and other marine
19 mammals is of great concern to the citizenry of the City and County of San Francisco; and

20 WHEREAS, The protection and preservation of the ocean and marine mammals that
21 inhabit the ocean are of great cultural and historical significance in San Francisco and the
22 state of California; and

23 WHEREAS, Numerous scientific and environmental groups have proffered evidence
24 that the use of SURTASS LFA sonar may be linked to internal bleeding, disorientation and
25 hearing loss, resulting in whale deaths and strandings; and

1 WHEREAS, According to the Navy's own test results, certain low frequency sonar
2 levels may have harmful effects on humans who swim or dive in nearby waters; and

3 WHEREAS, On December 31, 2001 the Navy issued a report regarding harm caused
4 to marine mammals in the Bahamas in March 2000, in which it admitted its experimental use
5 of mid-range active sonar contributed to the killing and/or injury of whales in the vicinity of the
6 testing.

7 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors believes that there are other
8 technologies already deployed or soon to be deployed, that can perform the same function as
9 SURTASS LFA without the harmful side effects; and

10 WHEREAS, The preservation of biodiversity and protection of marine life in California's
11 waters is not just an ecological, biological, or cultural concern, but also a matter of economic
12 necessity because a healthy ocean environment is an integral part of San Francisco and
13 California's visitor-driven economy.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors
15 opposes the United States Navy's proposed deployment of Surveillance Towed Array Sensor
16 System (SURTASS) Low Frequency Active (LFA) sonar program unless and until scientific
17 evidence clearly and independently establishes that no harmful effects on the marine
18 environment will result from the program; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that the National
20 Marine Fisheries Service reject the United States of America Department of the Navy's
21 application for a Letter of Authorization to take marine mammals during the deployment of the
22 SURTASS LFA sonar unless and until it is established that no harmful effects will result from
23 such deployment; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
25 Francisco requests that that National Marine Fisheries Service conduct public hearings in San

1 Francisco and throughout the State of California on the application for the proposed
2 deployment of the sonar program; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to President
4 George W. Bush, Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Representative Tom
5 Lantos, Representative Nancy Pelosi, Governor Gray Davis, Mayor Willie L. Brown, the
6 Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of Defense, and the
7 National Marine Fisheries Service.

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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails Resolution

File Number: 021109

Date Passed:

Resolution opposing the United States of America's Department of the Navy's proposed deployment of surveillance towed array sensor system low frequency active (SURTASS LFA) sonar.

June 24, 2002 Board of Supervisors — CONTINUED

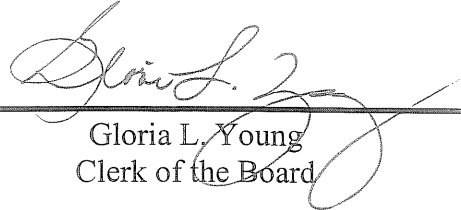
Ayes: 6 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Maxwell, Yee
Absent: 5 - Leno, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval

July 1, 2002 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom,
Peskin, Yee
Noes: 1 - Hall
Absent: 1 - Sandoval

File No. 021109

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on July 1, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



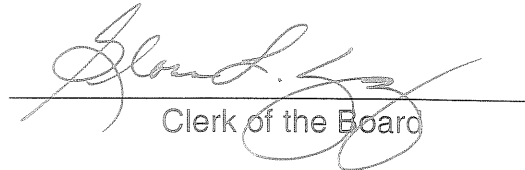
Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

Date: July 12, 2002

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.



Clerk of the Board

File No.
021109