

1 [Supporting H.R. 5161, the "Commission on Mexican-American Removal during 1929-1941
2 Act']

3 **Resolution supporting H.R. 5161, the "Commission on Mexican-American Removal**
4 **during 1929-1941 Act."**

5
6 WHEREAS, United States Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (D-CA) introduced on April
7 6, 2006, H.R. 5161, or the "Commission on Mexican-American Removal during 1929-1941
8 Act"; and,

9 WHEREAS, The Commission would mark the first official study of a dark period in U.S.
10 history that saw as many as 2 million U.S. residents of Mexican heritage, some of them U.S.
11 citizens, forcibly removed to Mexico or harassed into emigrating to Mexico; and,

12 WHEREAS, The period of Mexican removal is mentioned very little if at all in the ten
13 most commonly used U.S. history textbooks for middle and high school students; and,

14 WHEREAS, The stated purpose of the removal of Mexican-Americans during the
15 Great Depression was, according to the authorities at the time, to keep scarce jobs for "real
16 Americans" rather than Mexican-Americans; and,

17 WHEREAS, Mexican-Americans were deported and harassed all over the United
18 States, including Illinois, Michigan, Texas, Arizona, New York, New Mexico and California;
19 and,

20 WHEREAS, Some of those deported from the United States during this period had
21 served in the U.S. military during World War I; and,

22 WHEREAS, During the Great Depression, Mexican-Americans faced a wide variety of
23 hostile acts from all levels of government, including raids in public places, the withholding of
24 jobs by governments and private companies, the denial of public aid, and forced departures
25 in guarded trains or cars; and,

1 WHEREAS, On October 7, 2005, California State Senator Joe Dunn's bill expressing
2 an apology on behalf of California for its role in the removal of Mexican-Americans during the
3 Great Depression became law; and,

4 WHEREAS, H.R. 5161 has the support of the National Council of La Raza, the
5 National Association of Latino Elected Officials, the Mexican American Legal Defense and
6 Education Fund, and the American GI Forum, among many other groups; and,

7 WHEREAS, The history of Mexican removal during the Great Depression serves as a
8 cautionary tale considering the passage by the House of Representatives of a bill that would
9 make it a felony to be an undocumented resident of the United States; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 supports H.R. 5161, or the "Commission on Mexican-American Removal during 1929-1941
12 Act"; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall send copies
14 of this resolution to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne
15 Feinstein.

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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: 060608

Date Passed:

Resolution supporting H.R. 5161, the "Commission on Mexican-American Removal during 1929-1941 Act."

May 9, 2006 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 060608

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on May 9, 2006 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

[Signature]
Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

MAY 19 2006

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date: May 19, 2006

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.

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

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060608