

1 [Urging President George W. Bush to allow the United States to join the group of nations that
2 ratify and agree to be bound by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person's with
3 Disabilities.]

4 **Resolution urging President George W. Bush to sign the United Nations Convention on**
5 **the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and allow the United States to join the group of**
6 **nations that have ratified and agreed to be bound by the Convention.**

7 WHEREAS, Thirty years ago this month, in April 1977, San Francisco was the site of
8 150 people with disabilities and their allies occupying offices of the Federal Department of
9 Health, Education and Welfare for 26 days, resulting in the signing of regulations to implement
10 Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, which became the model for the Americans with
11 Disabilities Act, and reaffirmed the Bay Area as the birthplace of the modern disability civil
12 rights movement; and

13 WHEREAS, Seventeen years ago, in July 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act
14 extended the non-discrimination protections in Section 504 (which applied only to entities
15 receiving Federal funding) to private employers and public accommodations; and

16 WHEREAS, in December 2006, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted
17 the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which currently awaits ratification by
18 at least 20 signatory nations to become International Law; and

19 WHEREAS, The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was the
20 fastest negotiated international human rights treaty in history and is the first United Nations
21 treaty to comprehensively articulate basic human rights of persons with disabilities and outline
22 specific actions necessary in order to guarantee these basic rights in nations that ratify it; and

23 WHEREAS, In a departure from the United States' historic role as an international
24 leader in disability and human rights, President George W. Bush has indicated that he will not
25

1 sign this landmark human rights treaty, which may in turn discourage other countries from
2 signing it; and

3 WHEREAS, On April 20, 2007, the Mayor's Disability Council passed Resolution 2007-
4 01, entitled *Mayor's Disability Council Resolution In Support of the United Nations Convention*
5 *on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, which urged Mayor Gavin Newsom and the San
6 Francisco Board of Supervisors to formally request that President George W. Bush allow the
7 United States to join the group of nations which ratify and agree to be bound by the
8 Convention; and

9 WHEREAS, A copy of the Mayor's Disability Council Resolution 2007-01 and a copy of
10 the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities are on file with the
11 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 071506, which is hereby declared to be a part of
12 this resolution as if set forth fully herein; now therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
14 does hereby urge President George W. Bush to sign the United Nations Convention on the
15 Rights of Persons with Disabilities and allow the United States to join the group of nations
16 which ratify and agree to be bound by the Convention.



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 071506

Date Passed:

Resolution urging President George W. Bush to sign the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and allow the United States to join the group of nations that have ratified and agreed to be bound by the Convention.

November 6, 2007 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

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

File No. 071506

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on November 6, 2007 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

11/14/2007

Date Approved

[Signature]
Mayor Gavin Newsom