Resolution calling on the State, the UC Regents, the CSU Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to Recommit to the California Master Plan for Higher Education.

WHEREAS, The Master Plan for Higher Education was adopted by the California State legislature in 1960 to guide the development of Public Education in California; and

WHEREAS, The Master Plan designed a three-tiered university and college system to offer education to all Californians, consisting of the Community College system, the California State University (CSU) system, and the University of California (UC) system; and

WHEREAS, The Master Plan promised a quality education to all Californians who could benefit from one, regardless of income or background; and

WHEREAS, The Master Plan was created to ensure California social mobility through the promise of virtually free higher education; and

WHEREAS, California's University system has been a remarkable and indispensible producer of economic, intellectual, social, and cultural public goods for California, the Nation, and the World; and ranks as one of the top public university systems in the world; and

WHEREAS, The State of California has cut $3 billion in spending to the 110 community colleges, 23-campus California State University system, and the 10-campus University of California system; and

WHEREAS, The cuts in funding to California Public Universities and Colleges not only threaten the world-renowned status of these institutions, but also threaten to destroy the promise of quality public education for all Californians embodied in the Master Plan for Higher Education; and

Supervisors Mirkarimi, Campos
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WHEREAS, Since 2000, California State University student fees have risen by approximately 280 percent; and

WHEREAS, Since 2001, University of California student fees have risen by more than 300 percent; and

WHEREAS, On November 19, 2009, the Regents of the University California voted to raise student fees by an additional 32 percent, bringing the total undergraduate tuition to over $10,000 per year before living expenses; and

WHEREAS, On November 19, 2009, the Regents, against their own policy of not raising graduate fees above the fees charged by other public universities, voted to drastically raise Graduate fees on programs ranging from Dentistry to Social Work; and

WHEREAS, The University of California has cut courses and services, closed libraries on weekends and cut hours, laid off thousands of workers and teachers, and forced worker furloughs; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, California State University fees were increased by around 30 percent, with more fee increases planned, along with reducing enrollment by 40,000 students, teacher and worker furloughs, and massive layoffs; and

WHEREAS, All the aforementioned actions have had and will have a disproportionately adverse effect on low-income and minority students, workers, and families; and

WHEREAS, The 2009 cuts to public education have limited access at a time when a staggering economic recession has created the highest demand on record for higher education; and

WHEREAS, The cumulative effect of the dramatic ongoing changes in California's University and College system is the privatization of a public good, thereby dismembering the patrimony of the citizens of California, now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco stand in solidarity with students, workers, and teachers across California’s public universities and colleges against fee increases, enrollment reductions, layoffs; furloughs, and course and service cuts; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco call upon the Governor, the Legislature, the UC Regents, the CSU Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to recommit to the promise of the Master Plan for Higher Education; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in recommitting to the Master Plan, the State must establish new revenue sources for public higher education, be it through new taxes on oil extraction, increased vehicle license fees, changes in the property tax formula, new federal funds, or any other revenue source that can put California public Universities and Colleges on a sound financial footing as an investment in our common future; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall forward a fully conformed copy of this Resolution to San Francisco’s state legislative delegation, the President of the UC Regents, the President of CSU Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.
Resolution Calling on the State, the UC Regents, the CSU Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to recommit to the California Master Plan for Higher Education.

December 08, 2009 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell and Mirkarimi

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 12/8/2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom