[Supporting Global Women's Strike and International Women's Day]

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS WOMEN HAVE MADE TO SAN FRANCISCO AND SUPPORTING THE GLOBAL WOMEN'S STRIKE FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM WHICH VALUES ALL WOMEN'S WORK AND WOMEN'S LIVES AND FURTHER URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THE CONGRESS AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT AND PASS LEGISLATION DESIGNATING MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> AS A PAID PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.

WHEREAS, International Women's Day began on March 8, 1907 when women garment workers of New York went on strike for a living wage and a 10-hour day; and

WHEREAS, On March 8, 1908, women needle-workers of New York went on strike to end sweatshops and child labor and from then on March 8<sup>th</sup> became marked as a date to inspire women worldwide in their fight for equality and social justice; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, March 8<sup>th</sup> was officially recognized by the United Nations as International Women's Day; and

WHEREAS, Women all over the world have take up the call by women in Ireland for Strike on International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2000; and

WHEREAS, The Global Women's Strike will focus on women's enormous contribution to every sector of society and economy and women in San Francisco will highlight their contributions both wage labor and unpaid work to the economy of San Francisco and press for money and resources owed for their work; and

WHEREAS, Women comprise half of the world's population and look after the majority of the world's population yet most of the work performed by women is not paid and their work is neither given due recognition nor valued; and

WHEREAS, Women grow 50-80% of food and produce breastmilk upon which much of the world is dependent for survival, yet are not considered workers or farmers; and

WHEREAS, Women's yearly unpaid contribution to society is estimated to be at least \$11 trillion; and

WHEREAS, Women and girls perform at least 60% of the world's work for 5% of the income and half of women's work is non-wage work; and

WHEREAS, Lack of economic equality and social recognition for the work that women perform is a form sexist injustice which devalues women and the important work they do and this often causes women to be segregated into low paying unskilled and service jobs; and

WHEREAS, Among the world's industrialized countries, the United States has the highest proportion of women living in poverty in which 60% of the US population living below poverty line are women with dependent children; and

WHEREAS, White women's average full-time weekly earnings are 73% of white men's, for African-American women it is 63% of white men's wages, for Latinas, it is 53% and the lowest figures are found amongst women with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, According to leading economists and labor experts, "welfare reform" has widened the gap and the global market has lowered wages internationally; and

WHEREAS, After retirement, women with pensions receive 53% of what men receive while some women have no pension; and

WHEREAS, Social and economic discrimination causes women to be more prone than men to suffer from depression, low self-esteem and other psychological and physiological ailments and diseases; and

WHEREAS, \$700 billion annually is spent on military budgets worldwide while less than \$20 billion is spend on essentials of life important to women and their families such as access to clean water, health, sanitation and basic education; and

WHEREAS, Women have a right to pay and job equity, affordable housing and accessible transportation, recognition for caring work within and outside of the family, affordable healthcare including alternative and traditional healthcare options, low-cost organic food which is not genetically modified, protection against all violence at home, in the workplace and on the streets; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby recognizes the significant contributions women have made to San Francisco and supports the Global Women's Strike for a New Millennium which values all women's work and women's lives, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors urges the President of the United States as well as the Congress and House of Representatives of the United States to enact and pass legislation to designate March 8<sup>th</sup> a paid public holiday in honor of International Women's Day.

SUPERVISOR AMMIANO



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number: 000364 Date Passed:

Resolution recognizing the significant contributions women have made to San Francisco and supporting the Global Women's Strike for a new millennium which values all women's work and women's lives and further urging the President of the United States as well as the Congress and House of Representatives of the United States to enact and pass legislation designating March 8th as a paid public holiday in honor of International Women's Day.

1

March 6, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng,

Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Bierman

File No. 000364

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 6, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young

Clerk of the Board

3/17/00

**Date Approved** 

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.