

FILE NO. 050390

RESOLUTION NO. 273-05

1 [Opposing Federal Legislation.]  
2

3 **Resolution opposing H.R. 298, a bill *sponsored* introduced by Rep. Richard Pombo to**  
4 **require the Secretary of the Interior to provide public access to the Farallon National**  
5 **Wildlife Refuge.**  
6

7 WHEREAS, The Farallon National Wilderness Refuge is located 28 miles west of San  
8 Francisco and is within San Francisco's city limits; and,

9 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Farallon National  
10 Wildlife Refuge is the largest seabird breeding colony on the Pacific coast south of Alaska,  
11 hosting more than 300,000 birds each summer; and

12 WHEREAS, Breeding species of seabirds on the Farallon Islands include the western  
13 gull, Cassin's auklet, rhinoceros auklet, common murre, Brandt's cormorant, double-crested  
14 cormorant, pelagic cormorant, pigeon guillemot, ashy storm petrel, Leach's storm petrel,  
15 American black oystercatcher and the tufted puffin, in addition to stellar sea lions and  
16 northern elephant seals which breed and pup on the South Farallon Islands; and,

17 WHEREAS, Although the two hundred and eleven acre island habitat is closed to  
18 public access, the wildlife can be observed, studied and photographed at a distance from  
19 boats; and,

20 WHEREAS, Seabirds, whales, sea turtles, marine mammals and large fish exploit the  
21 abundant and diverse food resources of this geography, one of the most abundant in the  
22 world which includes rockfish that spawn near the Islands' rocky shores which are food for  
23 commercially valuable fish such as salmon; and,  
24  
25

1           WHEREAS, Given the lack of infrastructure on the islands, there are serious safety  
2 issues involving accessing the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge as well as on the island  
3 which preclude the feasibility of opening the refuge to the public; and,

4           WHEREAS, Opening the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge to the public could put one  
5 of our country's greatest natural treasures at risk by threatening sensitive wildlife populations  
6 to excessive human disturbance; and,

7           WHEREAS, Increased human disturbance to the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge  
8 would likely increase negative impacts on federally and state listed protected species; and,

9           WHEREAS, A copy of H.R. 298 is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in  
10 File No.     , which is hereby declared to be a part of this resolution as if set forth fully herein;  
11 now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That it shall be the official policy of the City and County of San Francisco  
13 to oppose H.R. 298 or any similar effort to increase public access to the Farallon National  
14 Wildlife Refuge; and, be it

15           FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon final adoption of this resolution, the Clerk of the  
16 Board of Supervisors shall transmit copies to Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Congressman  
17 Tom Lantos, Senator Diane Feinstein and Senator Barbara Boxer.



# City and County of San Francisco

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

## Tails Resolution

**File Number:** 050390

**Date Passed:**

Resolution opposing H.R. 298, a bill introduced by Rep. Richard Pombo to require the Secretary of the Interior to provide public access to the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge.

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March 15, 2005 Board of Supervisors — CONTINUED

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

April 19, 2005 Board of Supervisors — AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE  
BEARING NEW TITLE

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick,  
Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval  
Excused: 1 - Alioto-Pier

April 19, 2005 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick,  
Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval  
Excused: 1 - Alioto-Pier


File No. 050390

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on April 19, 2005 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

APR 27 2005

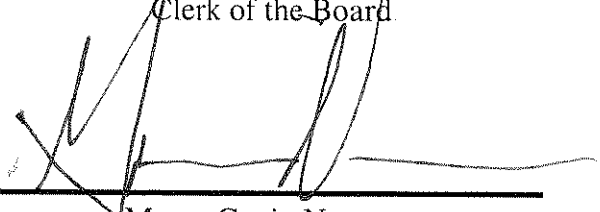
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Date Approved

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Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

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Mayor Gavin Newsom