Amendment of the Whole January 23, 2006.

FILE NO. 060026

RESOLUTION NO. 66-06

[Condemning the Government of the People's Republic of China for its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners]

Resolution condemning the People's Republic of China for its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, and expressing the position of the City and County of San Francisco to Federal Officials, the Mayor of Shanghai and the Chinese Consulate and urging federal officials and the State Department to follow United States Congress Resolution 304, and stating that the views expressed by Falun Gong practitioners are not officially sanctioned by the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Falun Gong is a peaceful moditation and spiritual practice that originated in the People's Republic of China and is now practiced around the world including the United States: and

WHEREAS, Falun Gong practitioners in the People's Republic of China, the United States, and the rost of the world have always been peaceful and non-violent while advocating the principles of Truthfulness, Compassion and Tolerance; and

WHEREAS, according to various sources including the United States State Department and Amnesty International, since 1999 the Government of the People's Republic of China has continued a most brutal crackdown on Falun Gong practitioners, which includes beatings and torture, confinement in labor camps, prisons and mental hospitals, rape, sexual assault, forced abortion, and over one hundred methods of extreme physical and mental torture: and

WHEREAS, thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been confirmed killed in police custody, tens of thousands have been tortured and hundreds of thousand have been arrested for their belief; and

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WHEREAS, according to Falun Gong sources and on clearwisdom.net, in Shanghai, in 2005, the sister city of the City of San Francisco, thousands of Falun Dafa practitioners were persecuted by the Chinese, including hundreds of people detained and four people killed; and

WHEREAS, official measures have been taken to conceal all atrocities, such as the immediate cremation of victims, the blocking of autopsies, and the false labeling of deaths as from suicide or natural causes; and

WHEREAS, t<u>T</u>he persecution of Falun Gong violates the Constitution of the People's Republic of China as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, propaganda from the state-controlled media, such as Chinese Central Television, projected within and outside the People's Republic of China has inundated the public, including residents of San Francisco and the Bay Area in an attempt to brood hatred and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the campaign of persecution has been generated by the Government of the People's Republic of China, is carried out by government officials and police at all levels, and has permeated every segment of society and every level of government in the People's Republic of China; and

WHEREAS, Chinese consular officials have pressured local elected officials in the City of San Francisco to refuse or withdraw support for the Falun Gong spiritual group;

WHEREAS, Falun Gong practitioners have been excluded purposely from numerous Chinese community events in San Francisco due to the pressure from the Chinese government on the organizers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Lee, a United States citizen and San Francisco Bay Area resident, has reportedly been mentally and physically tortured since being detained by Chinese authorities in early 2003; and

Supervisor Daly BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHEREAS, individuals that physically harassed Falun Gong practitioners in San Francisco on October 22, 2000, were later seen at anti-Falun Gong meetings and the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, <u>t</u>he Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom of religion, the right to assemble, and the right to speak freely, and the city of San Francisco has been a champion in promoting human rights; and

WHEREAS, i<u>i</u>n 2004, the United States Congress <u>House of Representatives</u> (with the United States Senate concurring) passed a concurrent resolution, Resolution 304, <u>expressing</u> the sense of Congress regarding oppression by the Government of the People's Republic of <u>China of Falun Gong in the United States and in China</u>condemning the Government of the People's Republic of the People's Republic of China for its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, calling upon the immediate release from detention, and cessation of harassment of all Falun Gong practioners and urging the President of the United States to issue an official public demarche, a formal protest, to the Chinese Foreign Ministry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that the Government of the People's Republic of China should cease its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners; and its representatives in the United States should cease their harassment of eitizens and residents of the United States who practice Falun Gong and cease their attempts to put pressure on local governments and institutions in San Francisco to refuse or withdraw support for the Falun Gong and its practitioners<u>should be free from persecution within the City and County of San Francisco and that appropriate City agencies, including the Police Department and Human Rights Commission should protect the rights and safety of Falun Gong practitioners; and, be it</u>

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City and County of San Francisco should use every appropriate means to urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to:

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1	(A) Release from prisons and labor camps all Falun Gong practitioners who have been
2	illegally arrested, as well as other prisoners of conscience.
3	(B) Abide by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal
4	Declaration of Human Rights by allowing Falun Gong practitioners to pursue their
5	personal beliefs; and, be it
6	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
7	of Supervisors to:
8	(A) Send a letter to the Mayor of Shanghai to address the concern over the
9	persecution of Falun Gong in Shanghai; and
10	(B) Send a copy of this resolution to the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco to
11	address concern of the persecution of Falun Gong in China and the activities of the
12	consulate in San Francisco to encourage discrimination and breed hate against Falun
13	Gong in San Francisco; and be it
14	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco will urges federal
15	officials to
16	(A) Issue a formal protest to the Chinese Foreign Ministry in response to the repeated
17	violations by the Chinese Government of basic human rights protected in international
18	covenants to which the People's Republic of China is a signatory; and be it
19	(B) Ccontinue their stance in support of Falun Gong as articulated in United States
20	Congress Resolution 304; and be it
21	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors explicitly states
22	that the views expressed by Falun Gong practitioners are not officially sanctioned by
23	the City and County of San Francisco, and that this resolution in no way encourages
24	the practice of any particular faith, philosophy, religion or belief system, including but
25	not limited to Falun Gong.

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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: 060026

Date Passed:

Resolution condemning the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners and expressing the position of the City and County of San Francisco to Federal Officials, urging federal officials and the State Department to follow United States Congress Resolution 304, and stating that the views expressed by Falun Gong practitioners are not officially sanctioned by the City and County of San Francisco.

January 31, 2006 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, Mirkarimi, Sandoval Noes: 2 - McGoldrick, Peskin File No. 060026

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on January 31, 2006 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gløria L. Young) Clerk of the Board

FEB 0 3 2006

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date: February 10, 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.

Clerk of the Board

File No. 060026