

1 [Urging the California Congressional Delegation to oppose the ongoing effort by Rep. John  
2 Culberson (R—Texas) to prevent cities from accepting the Matricula Consular and other  
3 identification cards issued by other countries, as valid forms of identification]

4 **Resolution urging the California Congressional Delegation representing the City**  
5 **and County of San Francisco to oppose the ongoing effort by Rep. John Culberson**  
6 **(R—Texas) to prevent cities from accepting the Matricula Consular and other**  
7 **identification cards issued by other countries, as valid forms of identification.**

8  
9 WHEREAS, Since 1989 the City and County of San Francisco has been a City of  
10 Refuge for immigrants, who make up more than a third of the population; and,

11 WHEREAS, It is well-known and documented that small businesses in the City depend  
12 heavily upon immigrants for daily operations; and,

13 WHEREAS, The current immigration debate makes immigrants even more vulnerable  
14 to hatred, biases, negative stereotyping and racism; and,

15 WHEREAS, Representative John Culberson (R—Texas) introduced an amendment to  
16 the FY'07 Transportation, Treasury Housing, and Urban Development Bill in the  
17 Appropriations Committee prohibiting the use of photo identification cards issued by other  
18 countries as a valid form of identification; and,

19 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors in 2002 unanimously passed the Matricula  
20 Ordinance, which amends the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Chapter 95,  
21 encompassing Section 95.1 requiring City departments to accept photo identification cards  
22 issued by other countries as valid forms of identification; and

23 WHEREAS, More than 70 banks in the United States accept photo identification cards  
24 such as "*la matricula*" and "*la cedula*," which are issued by other countries, as valid forms of  
25

1 identification for immigrants to open bank accounts, thus protecting immigrants from predatory  
2 financial institutions; and,

3 WHEREAS, At least 800 police departments across the United States accept photo  
4 identification cards issued by other countries; and

5 WHEREAS, The lack of an identification card makes immigrants subject to detention at  
6 the discretion of a law enforcement officer; and,

7 WHEREAS, Detaining immigrants for no other reason than for not having an  
8 identification card diverts police resources from protecting the community from violence,  
9 robberies, and other criminal activities; and,

10 WHEREAS, In February 2002, San Francisco became the first city in the country to  
11 accept photo identification cards issued by other countries as valid forms of identification; and,

12 WHEREAS, It is clear that accepting photo identification cards issued by foreign  
13 countries is for identification purposes only; and,

14 WHEREAS, A photo identification card issued by other countries cannot be used to  
15 obtain citizenship benefits such as work authorization or to obtain public benefits or to vote;  
16 and,

17 WHEREAS, Consular-issued identification cards have numerous security features to  
18 ensure authenticity and discourage fraud, including a digital picture, serial number, hologram  
19 with special marks, and infrared band to comply with United States standards; and,

20 WHEREAS, Acceptance of these identification cards fosters cooperation between  
21 police and immigrant communities; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California Congressional  
23 Delegation representing San Francisco to show their commitment to immigrants by opposing  
24 the ongoing effort by Rep. John Culberson (R—Texas) to prevent cities from accepting the  
25

1 Matricula Consular and other identification cards issued by other countries, as valid forms of  
2 identification, and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to the  
4 Matricula Ordinance, which requires City departments to accept photo identification cards  
5 issued by other countries as valid form of identification, and be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall send copies  
7 of this resolution to the Congressional Delegation representing San Francisco, including  
8 House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senator Barbara Boxer, and Senator  
9 Dianne Feinstein, and to all City department heads, along with a request to make their staff  
10 members aware of the Matricula Ordinance.



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 060913

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the California Congressional Delegation representing the City and County of San Francisco to oppose the ongoing effort by Rep. John Culberson (R—Texas) to prevent cities from accepting the Matricula Consular and other identification cards issued by other countries, as valid forms of identification.

June 27, 2006 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

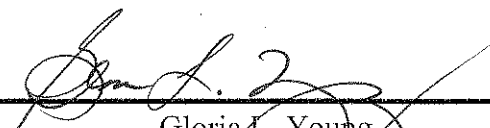
Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell,  
McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

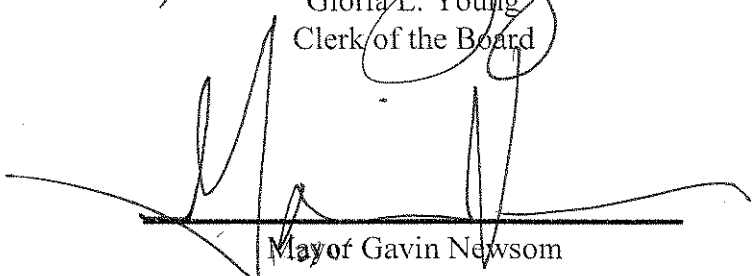
File No. 060913

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on June 27, 2006 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

JUN 29 2006

Date Approved

  
Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

  
Mayor Gavin Newsom