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Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to support Senate Bill 759.

Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco is deeply concerned about the public health and safety risks posed by aerial pesticides

WHEREAS. Aerial pesticide spraying is an outdated, inefficient practice that poses unacceptable exposure and risks; and

WHEREAS, Californians who live and work in communities that are exposed to pesticides—especially aerial pesticides sprayed from a helicopter or plane—face a welldocumented risk of developing a broad array of acute and long-term adverse health conditions; and

WHEREAS, more than 500 ingredients that have been classified as inert have also been or are currently also used as active ingredients; and

WHEREAS. Recent research has shown that so-called inert ingredients may increase the toxicity of pesticides to developing nervous systems, cause genetic damage, and disrupt the normal function of hormonal systems; and

WHEREAS, Children, the elderly, pregnant women, and those with compromised immune systems and chronic illness, are more vulnerable to the adverse health effects of pesticide exposure; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency emphasizes that children are at a greater risk for some pesticides, as their internal organs are still developing and maturing, and their immune systems may provide less natural protection than those of adults; and

WHEREAS, The elderly and those already ill are especially susceptible to adverse effects from pesticide exposure because of the extra vulnerability of their respiratory systems and lower immune function; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Pesticide Regulation annual reports of the numbers of people poisoned by aerial pesticide spray exposure does not account for the long-term effects of pesticide exposure, such as cancer and birth defects; and

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco and the greater Bay Area contain numerous sites where sensitive populations congregate, including schools, hospitals, day care centers, senior citizen centers and residential care homes; and

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco and the greater Bay Area opposes food production practices that put the residents of any area at risk of aerial pesticide exposure; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 759, requires the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to use prescribed information regarding the effects of pesticides, including inert ingredients, to develop educational material for distribution to physicians and surgeons and to the public, and requires that "inert" ingredients, many of which pose serious health and environmental risks, are disclosed to the public before being applied aerially by a state contractor.

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports and endorses SB 759, The Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act and urges the California Assembly and Senate to pass SB 759, and urges the Governor to sign SB 759 into law.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number:

090463

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to support Senate Bill 759, Aerial Spraying of Pesticide: Inert Ingredients Act.

April 21, 2009 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar,

Maxwell

Excused: 1 - Mirkarimi

File No. 090463

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 21, 2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

5/1109

**Date Approved** 

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Angola Calvillo ( Clerk of the Board