[Urging the Trump Administration - Stop Mass Deportation - Rehabilitated Formerly Incarcerated Southeast Asian Nationals]

Resolution respectfully urging the Trump Administration to stop the massive deportation of rehabilitated formerly incarcerated Southeast Asian nationals.

WHEREAS, California is home to nearly a million Southeast Asians originating from Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos; and

WHEREAS, Between 1975 to the early 1990s, the United States accepted hundreds of thousands Southeast Asians escaping the Vietnam War and Khmer Rouge genocide of Cambodia; and

WHEREAS, Most of the immigrants settled in California major cities likes San Francisco, San Jose, Fresno, Long Beach, and Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, These immigrants were typically placed in the poorest parts of these communities with inadequate financial support and many of these individuals and their children languish in severe poverty; in particular Cambodian refugees; which predispose them to criminal activity and the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 expanded the definition of what type of crime that could result in deportation; the bill also allowed the expanded definition to be applied retroactively; and

WHEREAS, The Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC) estimates the 1996 Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, impacted more than 16,000 Southeast Asian Americans, many of whom were refugees fleeing the Vietnam War and the Cambodian genocide; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, Cambodia's government signed a bilateral agreement that allowed the implementation of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility

Act of 1996 to be applicable to US Cambodia nationals who had committed deportable offenses; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, Prime Minster of Cambodian, Hun Sen, questioned the agreement and sought to renegotiated it for humanitarian grounds; and

WHEREAS, President Trump and his administration has continued to place harsh limits on immigration and asylum with his national policy and he has particular sought out and specifically targeted immigrants in the reentry community; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, more than 1700 non-detained Cambodians were given final orders of removal; and

WHEREAS, Many individuals were District 10 residents who had more than 20 years removed from their time of criminal convictions; these individuals had become pillars of their communities, homeowners, fathers, mothers, and great tenure employees; and

WHEREAS, The Trump administration approach to deportation is controversial because its breaks up families and in some cases, the returnees, have never lived in their country of origin nor have a living relative; and

WHEREAS, The State of California and past Governor, Jerry Brown, started in 2018, taken active roles in trying to stop/combat the massive deportation of Southeast Asians; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, Governor Brown pardoned two Cambodian former felons; while many local public defender offices and legal advocacy groups have begun the process of reopening old cases in a vigorous attempt to lower offensives to non-deportable charges to stall countless deportations; and

WHEREAS, On February 22, 2019, California State Legislature in an Assembly Joint Resolution 1 named the "Relative to Vietnamese Refugees" urged President Trump and his administration to stop any efforts to reinterpret, disregard, or in any way prohibit the extension of the 2008 United States-Vietnam repatriation agreement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That, the City and County of San Francisco will not be silent or passive as the Trump Administration continues attack our most vulnerable members of our community, such as our DREAMers, our Muslim Community, our Transgender community, and now our rehabilitated formerly incarcerated Southeast Asian community; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, the City and County of San Francisco urges President Trump and his administration to place an immediate moratorium on the deportation of thousands of Southeast Asians whom crimes occurred more than ten years ago because the City honors these individuals as they holdfast to American values of rehabilitation and the need for second chances.



## City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

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

## Resolution

File Number:

190320

Date Passed: April 02, 2019

Resolution respectfully urging the Trump Administration to stop the massive deportation of rehabilitated formerly incarcerated Southeast Asian nationals.

April 02, 2019 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

File No. 190320

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/2/2019 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor

4/12/19

**Date Approved** 

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, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Clerk of the Board