

1 WAR IN WEST ASIA

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3 **Resolution of the Immigrant Rights Commission on the war in West Asia and its impact**
4 **on San Francisco immigrant and refugee communities.**

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6 WHEREAS, The Immigrant Rights Commission is tasked by Administrative Code
7 Section 5.201 with advising the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on issues affecting
8 immigrants in San Francisco and preserving their quality of life and civic participation; and

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10 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to significant Iranian, Palestinian, Lebanese,
11 Yemeni and more immigrant and refugee communities, as well as students and workers from
12 Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, whose families
13 and livelihoods are directly impacted by the ongoing war; and

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15 WHEREAS, The war initiated by the United States and Israel on Iran on February 28,
16 2026, and by Israel on Palestine and Lebanon, resulting in thousands of civilian deaths and
17 the displacement of millions, have placed severe strain on San Francisco's immigrant
18 communities, as children in the City's schools cannot perform academically, community
19 members are withdrawing from civic life because they are consumed by the crisis abroad, and
20 families are accelerating immigration petitions and asylum claims, increasing demand on the
21 City's legal services; and

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23 WHEREAS, The destruction of hospitals and medical infrastructure across affected
24 countries has left San Francisco residents knowing that sick or injured family members have
25 no functioning facility to turn to and that treatment has stopped, while community members

1 cope with grief through local providers, increasing demand on the City's already stretched
2 health and mental health services; and

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4 WHEREAS, The total internet blackout in Iran since February 28, 2026, now exceeding
5 70 days, has severed communication between San Francisco's Iranian community and their
6 families, compounding the psychological toll of prolonged separation, and created concrete
7 barriers to immigration proceedings, as residents cannot obtain vital records needed for
8 asylum, adjustment of status, and family reunification cases; and

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10 WHEREAS, The targeting of essential civilian infrastructure in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman,
11 Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, including water desalination plants and oil
12 refineries, has cut off financial support from family abroad for San Francisco residents from
13 these countries, while students and workers face visa and immigration uncertainty as they
14 may be unable to return home, lose sponsorship, or face unresolved questions about
15 Temporary Protected Status and humanitarian parole, and rising fuel costs and supply chain
16 disruptions are increasing the cost of living for all San Francisco residents, with a
17 disproportionate burden on immigrant households; and

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19 WHEREAS, The war has led to a distressing rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia, and
20 other forms of hate and discrimination within San Francisco, threatening the safety of our
21 immigrant, student, and worker populations; now, therefore, be it

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23 RESOLVED, That the Commission calls on the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to
24 adopt a resolution condemning the ongoing war in West Asia and calling for an immediate and
25 sustainable end to hostilities, including cessation of the war on Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, and

1 the Gulf states, on the grounds that this war is causing direct and measurable harm to San
2 Francisco's immigrant and refugee communities; and be it

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4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission calls on the Mayor and Board of
5 Supervisors to call for the protection of children in affected countries from forced conscription,
6 a matter of direct concern to San Francisco families with minor dependents and dual-national
7 children abroad, and to publicly urge restoration of open internet access in Iran so residents
8 can reestablish contact with families and obtain vital records necessary for immigration
9 proceedings, and further urges the City to allocate resources including mental health services,
10 academic support for students whose families are directly affected, legal support for
11 immigration proceedings affected by the war, community programming to counter the hate
12 and discrimination documented above, and a public education initiative on the war's impact on
13 San Francisco's communities; and be it

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15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission calls on the Mayor and Board of
16 Supervisors to urge the San Francisco federal Congressional delegation to utilize their
17 constitutional authority to oppose further unauthorized military actions and advocate for the
18 redirection of federal resources toward domestic programs serving affected communities,
19 including housing, health services, legal aid, and community safety; and be it

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21 FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Immigrant Rights Commission reaffirms its
22 commitment to San Francisco's role as a sanctuary city that protects the safety and dignity of
23 every community within its borders, and stands in solidarity with all residents working toward a
24 future free from violence and displacement.

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