

1 [Bhopal Remembrance Day]

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3 **Resolution Declaring December 3, 2004 as Bhopal Remembrance Day.**

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5 WHEREAS, On December 3, 1984, the world's worst chemical disaster took place in
6 Bhopal, India, when a Union Carbide Corporation chemical plant unleashed a cloud of deadly
7 chemicals that killed more than 3,000 people in a single night, and has been responsible for
8 over 20,000 deaths since; and,

9 WHEREAS, In the intervening years, Union Carbide Corporation abandoned all
10 responsibility for the site or the plight of survivors and their children; and,

11 WHEREAS, Union Carbide Corporation has refused to submit to the jurisdiction of the
12 Indian government in the pending criminal case against it where it is charged with culpable
13 homicide for the deaths allegedly caused by its negligence; and,

14 WHEREAS, Union Carbide Corporation is currently an offender in the eyes of the
15 Indian Government after the Chief Judicial Magistrate's court in Bhopal proclaimed the
16 company an absconder from justice for its failure to honor the process of law; and,

17 WHEREAS, Union Carbide Corporation was purchased by The Dow Chemical
18 Company in 2001; and,

19 WHEREAS, The Dow Chemical Company professes to lead the chemical industry
20 towards Responsible Care; and,

21 WHEREAS, The Dow Chemical Company too has refused to address pending issues
22 in Bhopal or force its subsidiary Union Carbide Corporation to appear in the Indian court to
23 face criminal charges; and,

24 WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco this week is host to a visiting delegation of
25 survivors of the Bhopal disaster (April 13 – April 20, 2004); and,

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has passed numerous resolutions and ordinances limiting
2 the release of toxins into the environment and protecting human health; and,

3 WHEREAS, Resolution number 129-03 supports the precautionary principle and asks
4 for legislation proposing that the precautionary principle become a part of city policy-making
5 and functions; now therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Dow Chemical Company
7 address pending issues facing the Bhopal survivors, and request its subsidiary Union Carbide
8 Corporation to take appropriate responsibility for its actions; and be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco declares December 3, 2004, the 20th
10 anniversary of the Bhopal chemical disaster, as Bhopal Remembrance Day; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this day will be a day of activities and seminars regarding
12 the Bhopal disaster, corporate accountability and advancing precautionary measures that can
13 be taken by the public and private sector to prevent chemical releases, disasters and public
14 health incidents within the city's borders.

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