



COUNCIL AGENDA: 05-17-05
ITEM: 3.5

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Betsy Shotwell

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 05-05-05

Approved:

Deama J. Afu

Date:

5-5-05

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 17 (DUCHENY) – RELATIVE TO THE FLAG OF THE FORMER REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 (Ducheny), which would urge that the state formally recognize the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam as the symbolic flag of the Vietnamese-American community in this state.

BACKGROUND

According to the bill's author at least eight states and eighty cities across the U.S. including thirteen cities in California, have passed similar measures recognizing the golden-yellow flag with three red stripes as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American community. The City of San Jose passed a proclamation of April 30, 2003 as Black April Remembrance Day, memorializing the Fall of Saigon and recognizing the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam as the "Flag of Free Vietnamese People."

ANALYSIS

SCR 17 would formally recognize the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam, as the symbolic flag of the Vietnamese-American community in California. SCR 17 also permits the flag to be displayed on any state-owned property, in conjunction with any state-sponsored Vietnamese-American event or any public function organized by the Vietnamese-American community in the state. City Support for SCR 17 would be consistent with previous Council action taken in 2003 as noted above. **Status:** SCR 17 is pending action in the Senate Rules Committee and, if passed, will then be heard on the Senate floor.

COORDINATION

This memorandum was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and the City's Legislative Representative in Sacramento.

Betsy Shotwell
BETSY SHOTWELL

Director, Intergovernmental Relations