

RESOLUTION NO. 73403

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO PURSUE THE PROMPT AND SAFE RETURN OF CONG THANH DO, A U.S. CITIZEN, TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam arrested a U.S. citizen, Cong Thanh Do, on August 14th of 2006; and

WHEREAS, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam continues to imprison Mr. Do without any formal charges, as of September 12, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Do is an advocate for a democratic, multi-party political system via peaceful, nonviolent means; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Do was not provided access to the U.S. State Department's Consular officials in Vietnam until September 1st, more than two weeks after being arrested by Vietnamese officials; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Do has not been provided adequate access to physicians or legal representation; and

WHEREAS, These actions by the Vietnamese government appear to violate Article 96 of the United Nations Charter on Human Rights;

WHEREAS, As of September 1, 2006, Mr. Do has initiated a hunger strike in protest of Vietnam's violations of his Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Do's health and welfare are in imminent danger as a result of his unlawful imprisonment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The City of San Jose respectfully urges the President and the Governor of California to pursue the prompt and safe return of Cong Thanh Do to the United States; for the President and Governor to denounce the violation of internationally acknowledged rights of foreign citizens demonstrated by the Vietnamese Government in the matter of Cong Thanh Do; and, to oppose current efforts by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to obtain Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with the United States in an effort to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) in light of the arrest and imprisonment of Cong Thanh Do.

ADOPTED this 12th day of September, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: CAMPOS, CHIRCO, CORTESE, LeZOTTE, NGUYEN, PYLE, REED, WILLIAMS, YEAGER, CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GONZALES

DISQUALIFIED: NONE

CINDY CHAVEZ
Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

LEE PRICE, MMC
City Clerk