

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF IRAN TO FREE EXPRESSION
AND STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF IRAN**

WHEREAS a 22-year-old Iranian woman, Mahsa Amini, died after being arrested by the morality police for allegedly violating the Islamic dress code for women on September 16, 2022, reportedly for alleged improper wearing of the hejab, and in response to her death protesters have taken to the streets in more than 50 cities, towns and villages across Iran and reports indicate that Iranian security forces have used lethal force in arresting more than 1,200+ people and killed as many as 87+ people during the demonstrations; and

WHEREAS Iranian women are at risk of suffering brutality and death for perceived violations of a dress code imposed on them by others; and

WHEREAS, The Iranian government has also restricted the internet, cutting access to Instagram and WhatsApp to prevent communication, access to information, freedom of expression to repress the rights of Iranian citizens, journalists, and human rights defenders;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party stands with the people of Iran, particularly women, who are engaged in legitimate and peaceful protests against an oppressive and corrupt regime, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party condemns those who have routinely and systematically violated human rights, restricted freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including the continuing closures of media outlets, arrests of journalists, and censorship of expression in online forums, and we call on the Iranian government and security forces to cease their attacks on (and killing of) those protesting Mahsa Amini's death, for a thorough and unfettered investigation by a trusted international body into the circumstances of her arrest and cause of death, and full accountability for all those determined to have been responsible for the death of Mahsa Amini and the 87 others, and growing, who have subsequently been killed.

Co-authors: Nima Rahimi, Ladan Manteghi, Shebreh Kalantari- Johnson (Councilmember, City of Santa Cruz), Tony Khoshaba, Sousan Manteghi-Safakish

Co-Sponsors: Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Dr. Shokooh Miry, Edesa Bitbadal, Ryan Khojasteh, Amar Shergill (Chair of the Progressive Caucus -California Democratic Party), Mahnaz Moghaddam, Aisha Wahab (Councilmember, City of Haywood), Jean Cohn (SCCDP Vice Chair), Carol Garvey, Maimona Afzal Berta (Board Member, Franklin-McKinley School District & Candidate for Santa Clara County Board of Education, Area 6).

Co-Sponsoring Organizations: Bay Area Iranian America Democrats, Assyrian Democrats of the Bay Area, and the Silicon Valley Democratic Club