

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 305279

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE OCT 14 2009

WHEREAS, the United States is home to nearly one million Iranian-Americans, with an estimated 400,000 residing in California. Iranian-Americans living in San Diego comprise a vibrant community of thousands contributing to the San Diego community in the fields of business, high technology, medicine, law, biotechnology, and public service; and

WHEREAS, similar to the "citizen diplomacy" strategies deployed between non-governmental organizations in the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War of the 1970s and 1980s, fertile opportunity exists between the people of the United States and Iran to foster a new grassroots diplomacy aimed at pursuing peace between both nations and democratic reforms in Iran; and

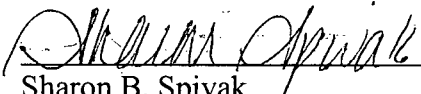
WHEREAS, on June 12, 2009, the vast majority of citizens of Iran participated in the Iranian presidential election and believed the election results to be highly suspicious, with widespread reports attesting to Election Day irregularities; and

WHEREAS, despite great adversity toward those who demonstrate their freedom of speech, millions of Iranians have exercised great feats of courage and creativity toward motivating a new reform. Hundreds of thousands of protesters are taking to the streets demanding a clean and fair election, and reforms such as women's rights and freedom of expression; and

WHEREAS, October 8th marks Mehregan, the traditional Iranian Harvest Festival, and will be celebrated in the City of San Diego at an event recognizing the ongoing struggle for democracy taking place in Iran; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of San Diego, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, stands in solidarity with the Iranian people in their struggle for freedom, justice and democracy; and does hereby proclaim October 8, 2009, to be "**HARVEST OF FREEDOM DAY**" in commemoration of the Iranian Festival of Mehregan.

APPROVED: JAN I. GOLDSMITH, City Attorney

By 
Sharon B. Spivak
Deputy City Attorney

SBS:lkj
09/29/09
Or.Dept:Council-Emerald and Frye
R-2010-206

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of OCT 6 2009

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 10-14-09
(date)


JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor