DATE: January 30, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr., Chancellor

Subject: SPECIAL

Protestation of Contemplated War on Iraq

(Resolution No. 030130-S3)

SUMMARY:

Worldwide protests against an impending US-led war on Iraq underscore the massive opposition to this potential international crisis. Getting people connected is a major step toward the realization that they have a voice and that they can use it to oppose what the government is doing. The citizens of San Francisco and their local elected officials have the constitutional right to petition the national government on this matter of grave concern to our City, the nation, and the world community.

SHARED GOVERNANCE REVIEW:

Yes______; No ______; If yes, which committee: ___________

Date of Review: __________________

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS, the residents of the City of San Francisco believe that a democratic nation should neither be an aggressor nation nor pursue an unjust war; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Francisco's 18-25 year old population is likely to be a primary source of conscription and recruitment for military personnel to fight a war from which there is no just cause or result; and

WHEREAS, a war will impact our students disproportionately in terms of their age category and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, a war will divert huge sums of money away from education and other social services that are intended to help our students and the communities in which they live at a time of significant budget reductions; and
WHEREAS, no one to date has been able to articulate why war on Iraq is in the interest of American citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Trustees of the San Francisco Community College District hereby voices our opposition to any preemptive strike or act of war contemplated by the President and the Congress of the United States, and resolves that no war against Iraq be undertaken at any time by the United States unless as a response to a direct military attack by Iraq or by a United Nations Resolution that underscores the urgency of such an extreme response.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body reaffirms The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the principles of international law, and calls on the Bush administration and our representatives in Congress to provide leadership in encouraging peace, democracy, and respect for human rights in Iraq and throughout the Middle East.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chancellor will forward copies of this resolution to appropriate governmental entities at the federal, state, and local levels.

Originators: Johnnie Carter
           Julio Ramos, esq.
           Rodel Rodis, esq.