

**RESOLUTION 10-32**

**CITY OF MILLBRAE, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILLBRAE  
IN SUPPORT OF AJR44 (HILL)  
RELATIVE TO MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION**

**WHEREAS**, Whales are evolutionarily complex, highly intelligent, and extremely important for the health and viability of ocean ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1982, the International Whaling Commission voted to implement a pause on commercial whaling beginning in 1986 in order to allow significantly depleted whale stocks to recover and quotas on whales were set to zero; and

**WHEREAS**, On April 15, 2010, the United States announced its intention to broker an agreement that would allow commercial whale hunting for the first time since the moratorium was enacted in 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, California is a coastal state dedicated to the protection of our marine mammal populations, fisheries, and ocean resources; and

**WHEREAS**, California's ocean waters support several species of whales, including blue whales, gray whales, pilot whales, fin whales, humpbacks, and orcas, all of which have special biological, ecological, aesthetic, cultural, political, and symbolic qualities and are particularly sensitive to the threats of whale hunting; and

**WHEREAS**, The protection of whales is of the utmost importance to Californians and our state's coastal and ocean-dependent industries, including tourism; and

**WHEREAS**, Whaling, pollution, and climate change threaten these peaceful creatures; and

**WHEREAS**, Whaling has decimated these once abundant species, including the blue whale, which has gone from a population of several hundred thousand to near extinction and only an estimated 5,000 to 12,000 blue whales remain throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, The whaling moratorium has staved off extinction, but must remain in place to support a population of many different species of whales that continue to struggle; and

**WHEREAS**, Lifting the moratorium could result in significant, irreversible, and harmful consequences to whale populations; and

**WHEREAS**, California has led the way in marine responsibility and in 2008, the Legislature passed Assembly Joint Resolution 49, which calls on the National Marine Fisheries Service to undertake an immediate and comprehensive assessment of the California gray whale to determine if the grey whale should be added to the endangered species list; and

**WHEREAS**, Legalizing commercial whaling, which would decimate whale stocks is contrary to our state's goal of protecting our marine mammal populations, fisheries, and ocean resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Millbrae requests that the President and the United States Congress do everything in its power to provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks, and that the City Council of the City of Millbrae opposes the International Whaling Commission's proposal to lift the whaling moratorium, which would legalize commercial whaling, leave enforcement of new whaling quotas to nations that have been violating the current moratorium.

**REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.



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Mayor


ATTEST:



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City Clerk

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Millbrae this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Seto, Quigg, Colapietro, and Holober
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
EXCUSED:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Papan

  
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CITY CLERK