

Due to an inadvertent clerical error, the Library posted an incorrect version of this explanatory document earlier this week. The incorrect version has been replaced with this correct one as of March 4, 2009.

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION URGING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING LIBRARY COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH TWO-WEEK FEE AMNESTY
PROGRAM IN 2009 FOR OVERDUE LIBRARY MATERIALS**

WHEREAS, In 2001, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 64-01, adding Section 8.21-3 to the San Francisco Administrative Code, authorizing the Library Commission to establish a two-week Library fee amnesty program in 2001 excusing persons who return all overdue Library materials on their Library account from having to pay any late fees; and

WHEREAS, During the two-week amnesty period in 2001, approximately 5,400 overdue materials were returned to the Library, with a total value of approximately \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, There has not been another Library fee amnesty period since 2001; and

WHEREAS, Amnesty programs for overdue Library materials give Library patrons the opportunity to return Library materials and thereby make them available to the public again. Moreover, Library patrons with a fine balance of over ten dollars are prevented from actively borrowing Library materials, and fee amnesty gives those patrons the opportunity to regain access to the Library's collections; and

WHEREAS, Amnesty programs for overdue Library materials are particularly important during difficult economic times when fines may pose an economic barrier to Library access for patrons who could benefit from Library resources; and

WHEREAS, The Library Commission finds that holding a fee amnesty program for overdue Library materials in April 2009 is likely to promote the return of needed Library materials or promote the increased use of the Library; and

WHEREAS, Section 8.21-3 provides that the Board of Supervisors may, by resolution, authorize the Library Commission to establish subsequent Library fee amnesty programs under the same terms and conditions set forth in Section 8.21-3; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That based on the above findings made at its noticed public hearing on March 5, 2009, the Library Commission hereby endorses the establishment of a fee amnesty program for overdue Library materials to take place during the two-week period from April 12 to 25, 2009, under the standards set forth in Section 8.21-3 of the Administrative Code; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Library Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to adopt the Resolution attached hereto, and should the Board adopt the Resolution or a resolution in substantially similar form, authorizes the City Librarian to take all steps necessary to establish a fee amnesty program for overdue Library materials for the two-week period of April 12 to 25, 2009 under the standards set forth in Section 8.21-3 of the Administrative Code.

Approved on _____

Commission Secretary

Attachment: Draft Board of Supervisors Resolution