



SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY BRANCH OF THE  
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**Resolution to Support HR 1019  
Freedom of Information in Vietnam Act of 2003**

**Submitted By: San Jose/Silicon Valley, CA Branch**

**Date Adopted April 24, 2003**

Whereas, the NAACP supports the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which affirms “respect for, and observance of, human rights and freedoms”;

Whereas, the NAACP affirms that “[a]ll peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development”;

Whereas, the NAACP seeks to eliminate the digital divide which limits access to information, economic mobility and disenfranchises people who wish to be self-sufficient;

Whereas, Vietnam has failed to meet its obligations as a signatory to the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which ensures that citizens of Vietnam are free “to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas of all kinds”;

Whereas, the Government of Vietnam continues to restrict all forms of media, including jamming broadcasts by Radio Free Asia (an independent broadcast service funded by the U.S. in order to provide objective news and information to the people of countries in Asia whose governments deny the right to freedom of expression and of the press) and blocking its Internet site and other sites like the BBC World News;

Whereas, the “Government of Vietnam is taking active measures to keep its citizens from freely accessing the Internet and obtaining international and domestic political, religious, and economic news and information”;

Whereas, the NAACP affirms the right to access information and the freedoms of speech and press;

Be it resolved, the NAACP supports HR 1019 – the Freedom of Information in Vietnam Act of 2003 and will lobby the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States to pass HR 1019.

For the complete text of the U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, please visit [http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/a\\_ccpr.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/a_ccpr.htm)