

Viet Refugees-- Welcome or Not

San Francisco's contentious supervisors can't agree whether they should welcome refugees from Vietnam to the United States.

After a brief, bitter debate, the supervisors decided Monday to hold a public hearing at an unspecified date on the issue.

It started when Supervisors John Barbagelata and Terry Francois offered a resolution which would have welcomed the refugees from Indochina and would have urged government agencies to help them get settled.

They expected uncontested approval of their proposal, but Supervisor Dorothy von Beroldingen didn't agree with it.

"We should offer this welcome first to the Mexicans, who deserve prior consideration," said the supervisor.

Barbagelata expressed dismay that anyone questioned the resolution. "If

there is something wrong with welcoming these people," he said, "then we are a sick, sick society."

At Mrs. von Beroldingen's insistence, the proposal was sent to committee for public hearings.

She also sent to committee a resolution, by Supervisor Dianne Feinstein, which urged Congress to appropriate funds for the care of the refugees.