

1 [Commendation.]

2

3 **Resolution commending the recognition of the Juneteenth Festival.**

4

5 WHEREAS, June 19th is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery; and,

6 WHEREAS, The ending of slavery was announced on June 19th, 1865, in Galveston
7 Island, Texas, when Union Major General Gordon Granger announced freedom for all slaves
8 in the Southwest, the last major vestige of slavery following the Civil War; and,

9 WHEREAS, This occasion occurred more than two and a half years after the
10 Emancipation Proclamation was signed and enforced by President Abraham Lincoln; and,

11 WHEREAS, The Juneteenth Celebration is now a worldwide celebration since its
12 inception 54 years ago; and,

13 WHEREAS, Juneteenth is presently a state holiday in Texas, Oklahoma, Florida,
14 Delaware, Alaska, Idaho and Iowa and efforts are continuing to establish Juneteenth as a
15 National Holiday in America; and,

16 WHEREAS, Juneteenth provides an opportunity for ALL Americans to learn more
17 about our common past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped our
18 nation; and,

19 WHEREAS, Juneteenth represents the joy of freedom-the chance for a new beginning
20 that allows us to reflect on where we've been, where we're at, and where we're going as one
21 now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, The City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors extend its
23 highest commendation in recognition of the Juneteenth Celebration; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco Board of
25 Supervisors proclaims June 19, 2002 as "Juneteenth Celebration" Day.