

1 [Support for the Matthew Shepard U.S. Stamp Campaign]

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3 **Resolution supporting the issuance of a commemorative United States (U.S.) Postage**
4 **Forever Stamp, in honor and in memory of Matthew Shepard.**

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6 WHEREAS, Matthew Shepard was born on December 1, 1976 in Casper, Wyoming
7 and grew into a young man passionate about equality and human rights; and

8 WHEREAS, His tragic murder in 1998, one of the most notorious anti-gay hate crimes
9 in our nation’s history, became the catalyst for significant shift in public awareness and policy,
10 leading to the enactment of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes

11 Prevention Act, a landmark piece of legislation that provides federal protections for violent
12 acts based on actual or perceived gender, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identify; and

13 WHEREAS, Issuing a commemorative stamp in Matthew Shepard’s honor would
14 memorialize his life and legacy and also serve as a reminder of our ongoing responsibility to
15 champion the values of acceptance and equality; and

16 WHEREAS, Such a stamp would symbolically represent our collective stand against
17 hate in all forms and our commitment to building a more inclusive and compassionate society;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In light of the profound influence of Matthew Shepard’s life and death on
20 our nation’s journey toward greater acceptance and equality, it is fitting and proper that we
21 honor his memory and legacy through a commemorative stamp; and

22 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco and the Matthew Shepard
23 Foundation share a commitment to the advancement of civil rights and the protection of the
24 LGBTQ+ community; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 2023, over 500 pieces of legislation were introduced across the country
2 targeting the rights of queer and trans Americans; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco honors
4 the legacy of Matthew Shepard by supporting the Matthew Shepard U.S. Postal Stamp
5 Campaign and respectfully urges the Members of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to
6 include Matthew Shepard for stamp development consideration; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests the Clerk provide copies of
8 the Resolution to be shared with the Matthew Shepard Foundation, the International Imperial
9 Court Council, the Office of Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, the Offices of the United States
10 Senator Alex Padilla, and Laphonza Butler, the U.S. Postal Service Citizens' Stamp Advisory
11 Committee, and the Postmaster General of the United States.