

1 [Resolution commending Bishop Yvette Flunder, Reverend Al Sharpton, and the National
2 Black Justice Coalition for their leadership in convening the Black Church Summit and in
3 seeking equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members of the African-
American community.]

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5 **National Black Justice Coalition for their leadership in convening the Black Church**
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7 **of the African-American community.**

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9 WHEREAS, The Black Church Summit, organized by the National Black Justice Coalition,
10 was a landmark meeting of African American clergy and members of the gay and lesbian
11 community to promote the acceptance of gays in black churches; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Black Justice Coalition is a national civil rights organization of
13 Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people dedicated to fostering equality by
14 fighting racism and homophobia; and

15 WHEREAS, The Summit was headlined by the Rev. Al Sharpton from New York and
16 Bishop Yvette Flunder of San Francisco's City of Refuge United Church of Christ in the South
17 of Market area; and

18 WHEREAS, Bishop Flunder, a native San Franciscan, founded the City of Refuge Church
19 on Howard Street in 1991 to provide an inclusive spiritual home welcoming to people of every
20 race, sexual orientation and income level; and

21 WHEREAS, The Summit at the First Iconium Baptist Church near downtown Atlanta,
22 featured films, discussions on acceptance and a look at how homophobia in churches may
23 promote the "down-low" phenomenon—men having sex with other men while maintaining a
24 heterosexual identity; and

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1 WHEREAS, The Summit's mission, to promote civil rights, inclusion and equality for gay
2 and lesbian members of the African American community is essential as increasing numbers
3 of African Americans are becoming infected with the HIV virus; and

4 WHEREAS, The push for acceptance is gaining momentum because of several measures
5 to ban gay marriage on ballots across the nation, and the leadership of many in the African
6 American gay community who argue that intolerance in Black churches is especially hurtful
7 because of Black church leaders' involvement in the civil rights struggle; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors commends Bishop Yvette
9 Flunder, Reverend Al Sharpton, and the National Black Justice Coalition for their leadership
10 in convening the Black Church Summit and in seeking equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and
11 transgendered members of the African-American community.

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