

1 [Resolution declaring May 2006 Foster Care Month]

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3 **Resolution declaring May 2006 Foster Care Month and urges all community members**
4 **to volunteer their talents and energies to honor children and youth in foster care and**
5 **foster care alumni during this month and throughout the year.**

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7 WHEREAS, The family is the foundation of strong and healthy communities; and

8 WHEREAS, Twenty percent of the nation’s foster care youth live in California; and,

9 WHEREAS, On October 1, 2005, there were 1,992 children and youth in foster care in
10 San Francisco; and,

11 WHEREAS, Approximately 185 youth will “age out” or emancipate in San Francisco
12 this year; and

13 WHEREAS, Nationally eighty-three percent of foster children are held back by the third
14 grade; and

15 WHEREAS, Nationally nearly fifty percent of foster children suffer from chronic health
16 conditions; and

17 WHEREAS, A history of foster care correlates with becoming homeless at an earlier
18 age and remaining homeless for a long period of time; and

19 WHEREAS, More than half of these San Francisco children and youth are cared for by
20 family members through kin foster placements; and

21 WHEREAS, More dedicated foster parents are needed to provide family care for
22 children who cannot live with their parents; and

23 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the entire community to make sure that each
24 youth who leaves the foster care system in California has a permanent lifelong connection
25 with a caring adult; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco is committed to youth engagement, empowerment, and
2 leadership; and

3 WHEREAS, Current and former foster youth have the unique capacity to educate
4 policy makers and the general public about the distinct needs of foster care youth; and

5 WHEREAS, There are numerous individuals and public, private and nonprofit
6 organizations that work to empower and support foster youth; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisor declares May 2006 Foster
8 Care Month and urges all community members to volunteer their talents and energies to
9 honor children and youth in foster care and foster care alumni during this month and
10 throughout the year.

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