

1 [Urging the Commissioners of Men’s Sports to Publicly Support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and
2 Transgender Athletes]

3 **Resolution requesting the Commissioners of professional men’s sports to take part in**
4 **the Last Closet Campaign, by going on record in a public interview in support of**
5 **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender athletes and to commit to setting up**
6 **support systems and safeguards that allow athletes to be openly out and participate in**
7 **sports without worry of discrimination or retaliation.**

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9 WHEREAS, Over the years, the City and County of San Francisco have taken great
10 pride in fielding two championship teams, the San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco
11 49ers, both have electrified and united our city; and

12 WHEREAS, All genders, all races, all classes, celebrate our teams’ accomplishments
13 as shared victories, and still, gay professional athletes feel the need to remain closeted; and

14 WHEREAS, The New York Times’ Frank Bruni wrote, on September 22, 2012, “Not
15 Once, has an active male player in any of the four major professional sports leagues in
16 America publicly acknowledged being gay;” and

17 WHEREAS, We recognize, as does the U.S military, the need to openly address
18 prejudice, instead of assuming it does not exist; and

19 WHEREAS, Our San Francisco Giants, in June of 2011, became the first major sports
20 franchise to record a video featuring Barry Zito, Matt Cain, Sergio Romo, Andres Torres, and
21 Hensley Meulen for the “It Gets Better Project” an online campaign aimed at curbing suicides
22 among LGBT youth; and

23 WHEREAS, Bias-based harassment is complicit in the disturbing statistics related
24 to LGBT youth taking their own lives; and

25 WHEREAS, Our LGBT youth need LGBT sports

1 heroes; and

2 WHEREAS, With this in mind, the Last Closet Project campaign leadership,
3 under the auspices of the nonprofit organization Woman Vision, is seeking interviews
4 with all of the major league sports Commissioners for the purpose filming a statement of
5 affirmation for LGBT athletes; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
7 Francisco respectfully requests that you, the Commissioners of Baseball, Football, Basketball,
8 Hockey, and Soccer use the authority of your office to sanction players who have engaged in
9 specific incidents of slurs and intolerance toward homophobia; be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That we request that you state, in a public interview, that you
11 support your LGBT players, that you invite them to come out and, once they are out, that you
12 pledge to make them feel safe and accepted; be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That there is no better place or time to affirm your
14 support of LGBT athletes than here in San Francisco during the 2012 World Series
15 celebrations. We are united in our belief that all of us are needed to make our city and our
16 team successful, and we are willing to say it loud and proud; be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Last Closet website and mission statement can be
18 viewed at www.thelastcloset.org and that a copy of this resolution be sent to all the
19 Commissioners of Sports listed above and on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in
20 File No. 121076 which is hereby declared to be a part of this resolution as if set forth fully
21 herein.

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