

1 [Commending Vermont House of Representatives]  
2 COMMENDING THE VERMONT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR PASSING A  
3 HISTORIC MEASURE CREATING "CIVIL UNIONS" THAT ENTITLE SAME SEX COUPLES  
4 IN VERMONT TO SOME 300 STATE BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES PREVIOUSLY  
5 RESERVED FOR LEGALLY MARRIED COUPLES.

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7 WHEREAS, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled in December that same-sex couples  
8 were being unconstitutionally denied the benefits of marriage and tasked the Legislature with  
9 deciding whether to allow gay marriages or create some kind of domestic partnership; and,

10 WHEREAS, The Vermont Legislature has come up with an innovative response to  
11 address legal inequities faced by same-sex couples by creating a new category for long-term  
12 relationships called civil unions; and,

13 WHEREAS, In civil unions, domestic partners would be entitled to previously denied  
14 state benefits or privileges in such areas as inheritance, hospital visitation rights, property  
15 transfers, medical decisions, insurance and taxes; and,

16 WHEREAS, Same sex couples could also apply for a license from town clerks and  
17 have their civil union certified by a justice of the peace, a judge or a member of the clergy; file  
18 a joint state income tax return; and jointly register for health care coverage if one partner  
19 works for local or state government; and,

20 WHEREAS, This measure was approved by the Vermont House of Representatives on  
21 a bipartisan vote of 76-69 and is expected to pass the Senate and be signed by Governor  
22 Howard Dean; and,

23 WHEREAS, If it becomes law, the state of Vermont will have gone further than any  
24 other state in recognizing same-sex couples, allowing partners to live up to their commitment  
25 to support each other and to provide stable environments for their children; therefore, be it,

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RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby commends the Vermont House of Representatives for passing a historic measure creating "civil unions" that entitle same sex couples in Vermont to some 300 state benefits and privileges previously reserved for legally married couples.



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails

## Resolution

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**File Number:** 000499

**Date Passed:**

Resolution commending the Vermont House of Representatives for passing a historic measure creating "civil unions" that entitle same sex couples in Vermont to some 300 state benefits and privileges previously reserved for legally married couples.

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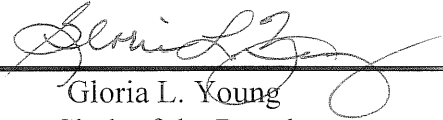
March 27, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 8 - Ammiano, Becerril, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Teng, Yaki

Absent: 3 - Bierman, Newsom, Yee

File No. 000499

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 27, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

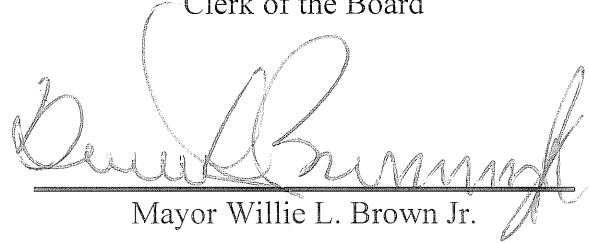


Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

APR - 7 2000

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Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.