

1 [Supporting Recognition of Married Same-Sex Couples in the 2010 Census.]

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3 **Resolution Calling for the Recognition of Legally Married Same-Sex Couples in the**
4 **2010 Census and for Federal Agencies to Include Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and**
5 **Transgender Individuals in all federal surveys and data collection.**

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7 WHEREAS, The U.S. Census Bureau is required by the Constitution of the
8 United States of America to conduct a count of the entire population every ten years; and,

9 WHEREAS, The Census is used to decide funding, representation and services to
10 communities, including more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding allocated
11 to local communities, and decisions are made on matters of national and municipal
12 importance based on census data, including immigration, healthcare, community
13 development, housing, education, transportation, social services, employment, environment,
14 and much more; and,

15 WHEREAS, The U.S. Census Bureau faces the daunting challenge of cost-effectively
16 counting a growing, more diverse and increasingly hard-to-find population that is reluctant to
17 participate in the decennial census; and,

18 WHEREAS, The U.S. Census Bureau's stated mission, is to serve as "the leading
19 source of quality data about the nation's people"; and,

20 WHEREAS, The federal government does not collect and maintain accurate and
21 complete data on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Individuals and the 2010 Census
22 questionnaire does not include questions about same-sex relationships to heads of
23 household; and,

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1 WHEREAS, The 2010 Census will fail to recognize legal same-sex marriages
2 performed in and/or recognized by a growing number of states, including Massachusetts,
3 Connecticut, Iowa, Vermont, California, and Maine; and,

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 18,000 same-sex couples were married in California and
5 San Francisco issued 3,773 marriage licenses to same-sex couples in 2008; and,

6 WHEREAS, Responses by legal same-sex spouses who truthfully check the husband
7 or wife category in response to questions about the relationship to their head of household will
8 be changed and reported as "unmarried partners" in all census tabulations; and,

9 WHEREAS, Data on families and households, published by the U.S. Census Bureau
10 will erroneously consider and list children of legally married same-sex couples as part of a
11 single-parent household; and,

12 WHEREAS, The use of incorrect population data by federal agencies will unfairly deny
13 community services and programs to law-abiding, tax-paying individuals who help fund such
14 programs; and,

15 WHEREAS, An accurate count of married same-sex couples is necessary to estimate
16 tax revenues once same-sex unions are recognized by the federal government; and,

17 WHEREAS, The Census Bureau can properly interpret the law to include and maintain
18 statistics on same-sex married couples and families; and,

19 WHEREAS, Denying same-sex married couples the right to be included in statistical
20 surveys and census data is discriminatory and deprives them of hard-fought legal recognition
21 and access to services that meet their social, physical and economic needs; and,

22 WHEREAS, It has never been more critical to accurately include every San Francisco
23 resident in the 2010 Census, particularly from communities or populations that have been
24 historically undercounted; and,

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a large population of same-sex households and same-
2 sex married couples with children, as well as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
3 Individuals who have significantly contributed in countless ways to the success of the City;
4 and,

5 WHEREAS, There are over 12,463 children living with same-sex parents in
6 San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges Congress, the
8 Secretary of Commerce and the federal government to immediately recognize legally married
9 same-sex couples, change the questions on the 2010 census questionnaire to allow
10 respondents to reflect this relationship, and to begin counting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and
11 Transgender Individuals in other federal surveys and data reports; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco calls for the
13 Current Population Survey and the Survey of Income and Program Participation to be adapted
14 to recognize Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Individuals in order to help federal and
15 other government agencies make informed and appropriate policy decisions.