

1 [Commendation]

2 COMMENDING THE GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS PROGRAM.

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4 WHEREAS, Encouraging attendance by low income African-Americans,  
5 Native Americans, Hispanics and Asians at colleges and universities  
6 continues to present a compelling challenge; and,

7 WHEREAS, The absence of financial assistance heads the list of  
8 barriers prohibiting enrollment by these groups in institutions of  
9 higher education; and,

10 WHEREAS, The escalating costs of attending college along with  
11 increased dependence on loans contribute to the attrition of African-  
12 American, Native American, Hispanic and Asian students; and,

13 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 30,000 African-American,  
14 Native American, Hispanic and Asian students are not attending  
15 college annually because of financial limitations; and,

16 WHEREAS, In 1997, African Americans made up 7% of the California  
17 population but only 3.5% of baccalaureate degree recipients and  
18 Latinos made up 29% of the population but only 13.3% of baccalaureate  
19 degree recipients; and,

20 WHEREAS, In 1997, African Americans made up 7% of the California  
21 population but only 4.1% of California graduate degree enrollees and  
22 Latinos made up 29% of the population but only 8.8% of graduate  
23 degree enrollees; and,

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1           WHEREAS, Almost 70 percent of college going Latino students  
2 enroll at two year colleges and only 7 percent of those who start at  
3 two year colleges transfer to a four year institution; and,

4           WHEREAS, The dropout rate of Hispanic students enrolled in  
5 college is over 50 percent; and,

6           WHEREAS, Lower income individuals and minorities lag behind  
7 other groups in computer ownership and use and access to the  
8 Internet; and,

9           WHEREAS, Lower income individuals and minorities are at a  
10 disadvantage in obtaining information, jobs and other economic  
11 benefits because they have less access to computers; and,

12           WHEREAS, Training more low income and minority individuals in  
13 technical fields may help to close the "digital divide" between the  
14 computer haves and have-nots; and

15           WHEREAS, The Gates Millennium Scholars Program, funded by the  
16 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and administered by the United  
17 Negro College Fund, will provide \$1 billion in scholarships and  
18 fellowships for outstanding low-income African-American, Native  
19 American, Hispanic and Asian students to attend the undergraduate and  
20 graduate institutions of their choice; and

21           WHEREAS, The Gates Millennium Scholars Program will assist a  
22 minimum of 1,000 students per year over the next 20 years; and

23           WHEREAS, Gates Scholarships will be available to undergraduate  
24 students who have showed promise in mathematics and science and to  
25 graduate students who are pursuing degrees in the fields of

1 engineering, mathematics, science, education or library science; now,  
2 therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County  
4 of San Francisco commends the Gates Millennium Scholars Program for  
5 providing substantial financial assistance to low-income African-  
6 American, Native American, Hispanic and Asian undergraduate and  
7 graduate students.

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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 991793

Date Passed:

Resolution commending the Gates Millennium Scholars Program.

September 27, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng,  
Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Brown

File No. 991793

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution  
was ADOPTED on September 27, 1999 by the  
Board of Supervisors of the City and County  
of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

OCT - 8 1999

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.