

1 [Supporting Gay Adoption]

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3 **Resolution urging the Supreme Court of the United States to rescind their refusal and**

4 **to accept the hearing of a legal challenge to Florida's prohibition of adoption of**

5 **children by gays and lesbians.**

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7 WHEREAS, In 1977, the State of Florida adopted legislation that prohibits gays and

8 lesbians from adopting children in 1977 and is the only state in the United States that prohibits

9 the adoption of children based upon sexual orientation; and

10 WHEREAS, The state of Florida does not prohibit single heterosexuals of either sex

11 from adopting children; and

12 WHEREAS, Steve Lofton is a licensed foster parent who has taken in eight children

13 with HIV or AIDS and won an outstanding foster parent of the year award and has been in a

14 committed relationship with his partner, Roger Croteau for the past 20 years; ; and

15 WHEREAS Steve Lofton and two other plaintiffs sued the State of Florida in 2000 for

16 the State's prohibition of adoption of children by gay and lesbians; and

17 WHEREAS, The plaintiffs lost their case in federal court, but filed an appeal just as the

18 Supreme Court, in Lawrence v Texas, invalidated the state's sodomy laws; and

19 WHEREAS, A three-judge panel of the 11th US Circuit Court of Appeals denied their

20 appeal in January 2003; and

21 WHEREAS, On January 10, the Supreme Court refused to the challenge to the Florida

22 statue prohibiting the adoption of children by gay people; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board Supervisors urges the Supreme Court to

24 rescind their refusal and to accept the hearing of the challenge to Florida's statue prohibiting

25 the adoption of children by gays and lesbians.