

1 [Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Mental Health Awareness Month]

2 **PROCLAIMING JUNE AS LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER MENTAL HEALTH**
3 **AWARENESS MONTH AND COMMENDING GAYLESTA FOR ADDRESSING AND**
4 **MEETING THE SPECIAL MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL,**
5 **AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES.**

6 WHEREAS, Gaylesta, a Bay Area organization comprised of over 200 practicing
7 transgender, bisexual, lesbian, and gay psychotherapists, maintain that there's a genuine lack
8 of awareness of mental health issues within the queer community and the seriousness of
9 these problems which confront members of transgender, bisexual, lesbian, and gay
10 community throughout all stages of their lives; and

11 WHEREAS, Due to the ever changing social, cultural and political climate, the mental
12 health needs of the queer community have also changed over the last decade; and

13 WHEREAS, Young people are coming out an earlier age and are face with concomitant
14 challenges such dealing with parental homophobia, violence in the schools, teen suicide,
15 isolation, developing self esteem in a homophobic environment and school curriculum which
16 doesn't reflect the history and socio-political culture of the queer community; and

17 WHEREAS, In the past, those diagnosed with HIV simply prepared for their deaths;
18 however, with advances in HIV/AIDS therapy which has enabled many people living with HIV
19 to live longer and to live more normal lives; people living with HIV are now having to deal with
20 returning to the work force, rebuilding relationships, and preparing for the future; and

21 WHEREAS, Of the 8 million lesbian and gay families and the over 16 million children
22 that are being raised by queer heads of households, over 100.000 reside in the Bay Area; and

23 WHEREAS, Some of the challenges faced by queer parents are raising children with
24 varying sexual orientations, coming out to children when they come of age, lack of nurseries

25 Supervisors Ammiano, Bierman, Leno, Katz

1 and child care centers that are gay sensitive and gay friendly, and school curriculum which
2 rarely reflects the social, political, and cultural realities of gay people and ; and

3 WHEREAS, The lack of safe, public social spaces within the larger community where
4 LGBT community can congregate force many to only socialize within bars and nightclubs
5 which predispose many to alcoholism and substance abuse; and ;

6 WHEREAS, High numbers of women developing breast cancer and the associated
7 challenges of living with cancer is a major problem within the women's community; and ;

8 WHEREAS, In addition, other common issues within the LGBT community are dealing
9 with domestic violence, maintaining healthy, long term relationships, maintain self esteem in a
10 larger homophobic society, confronting racism and sexism within the gay community, dealing
11 with hate crimes and hate violence and employment discrimination; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
13 declares June as Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Awareness Month; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors recognizes the special
15 mental health needs of the gay community and commends Gaylesta for addressing those
16 challenges and providing the needed support to the Bay Area's gay community and their
17 families .

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24 **SUPERVISOR AMMIANO**
25



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
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Tails

Resolution

File Number: 991188

Date Passed:

Resolution proclaiming June as Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Mental Health Awareness Month and commending Gaylesta for addressing and meeting the special mental health needs of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities.

June 21, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee

File No. 991188

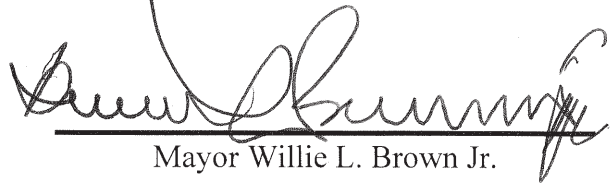
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on June 21, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
for Clerk of the Board

JUN 25 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.