

1 [Hostelling International Day.]

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3 **Resolution declaring October 26, 2008 as Hostelling International Day in San Francisco.**

4 WHEREAS, Hostelling International is a worldwide non-profit organization, dedicated to
5 the mission of helping all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and
6 its people through hostelling; and

7 WHEREAS, The Golden Gate Council of American Youth Hostels (aka Hostelling
8 International), headquartered in San Francisco operates ten hostels in Northern California
9 among the international network of 4,000 hostels in 70 countries; and

10 WHEREAS, The vision of Hostelling International is that communities will be enhanced
11 by the presence of hostels, programs, and visitors from around the world; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 1958, the Golden Gate Council has provided year-round
13 opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to discover the unique cultural, historic,
14 and environmental features of San Francisco and Northern California through hostel stays,
15 recreational activities, and educational programs; and

16 WHEREAS, From 1986 – 1995, Golden Gate Council produced the Great San
17 Francisco Bike Adventure, an annual fundraising event on the streets and freeways of San
18 Francisco for riders of all ages and capabilities drawing more than 15,000 riders at its height
19 to experience our city, for 15 miles, free of vehicular traffic along the route; and

20 WHEREAS, The three San Francisco hostels provide quality affordable
21 accommodations to some 150,000 people a year from around the world; and

22 WHEREAS, The Golden Gate Council has also been a leader in providing outdoor
23 recreational and environmental activities for the youth of San Francisco for nearly 40 years
24 including student ecology clubs at Galileo, Mission, McAteer, and Lowell high schools earning
25 money to subsidize their outdoor activities and weekend trips through on-site recycling
centers, among the first in San Francisco, before recycling became a community enterprise;
and

1 WHEREAS, In 1986, the Golden Gate Council established the Hostel Adventure
2 Program which provides overnight environmental education and outdoor adventures for youth
3 at three coastal hostels and has served more than 25,000 students since its inception; and

4 WHEREAS, More recently, the Golden Gate Council has added cultural programming
5 including Community Wall murals to give youth a means of artistic expression to share their
6 neighborhood with hostel guests from around the world and Cultural Kitchen programming
7 which teaches children about nutrition and other countries through the lens of food by cooking
8 a meal from a selected country to share with other overnight guests, and then present a
9 game, dance, song, or folk tale from their chosen locale; and

10 WHEREAS, Golden Gate Council of American Youth Hostels will be celebrating its 50th
11 Anniversary on October 26, 2008; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors commends Golden Gate
13 Council of American Youth Hostels for 50 years of contributing to the spread of world peace,
14 environmental awareness and international understanding, hereby proclaims October 26,
15 2008 as Hostelling International Day in San Francisco.
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