

1 [Commending Homeless Mothers in San Francisco]

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3 **Resolution commending the homeless mothers who are struggling to raise families in**
4 **San Francisco in the midst of a housing crisis.**

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6 WHEREAS, A report by the San Francisco City’s Controller found that by 2002 the City
7 lacks sufficient shelter beds for homeless families and families usually wait three to five
8 months for space in a full-service shelter. In 2005 the wait list to get into a full service shelter
9 continues to be as high as 100 and the wait continues to be three to five months; and

10 WHEREAS, The Mayor of San Francisco at his State of the City’s Children address on
11 April 6, 2005 noted that San Francisco’s housing crisis is in part due to the fact that it cost a
12 family of three over \$69,000 annually to live in the City; and,

13 WHEREAS, Most homeless families do not earn enough money, even those who are
14 employed, to be able to pay for “affordable” housing; and,

15 WHEREAS, More than five hundred children, under 17 years of age, live in San
16 Francisco Emergency and Transitional Shelters on any single day; and,

17 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Ten Year Plan to abolish chronic homelessness self
18 proclaims on page one of its “Changing Directions” Executive Summary that “This plan is
19 directed at the 3,000 chronically homeless”. A chronically homeless individual is defined as
20 “an unaccompanied disabled individual who has been sleeping in one or more places not
21 meant for human habitation or in one or more emergency homeless shelters for over one
22 year or who has had four or more periods of homelessness over three years”. Thus, the plan
23 focuses on single individuals and does not prioritize the needs of the many homeless parents
24 and children; and,

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1 WHEREAS, According to the 2000 U.S. Census, San Francisco had the lowest
2 percentage of people younger than 18 of any large city in the nation, 14.5 percent, compared
3 to 25.7 percent nationwide; and,

4 WHEREAS, The 2000 U.S. Census reported that despite an overall 7% population
5 growth in San Francisco, the African American population decreased from 78,931 to 60,515,
6 a decrease of 23% in ten years; and,

7 WHEREAS, According to Hamilton Family Center, the largest provider of shelter and
8 services to homeless families in San Francisco, over 80 percent primary caregivers of
9 homeless families are women; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 honor and recognize the homeless mothers who are struggling to raise families in San
12 Francisco in the midst of a housing crisis that has left thousands without a home; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
14 Francisco urges the Mayor and all City Departments to develop strategies, including local
15 rental subsidies, to stop the exodus of families and children from the City of San Francisco;
16 and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
18 Francisco declare Sunday May 8, 2005 as the day to honor and recongize the work of
19 homeless mothers raising children in San Francisco.