

1 [Cliff House Day - July 12, 2013]

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3 **Resolution commending Cliff House on its 150th Anniversary and declaring July 12,**
4 **2013, as Cliff House Day in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, The Cliff House was established in 1863 with a modest white clapboard
7 building overlooking the Pacific; and following a devastating fire over three decades later,
8 visionary Adolph Sutro oversaw the construction of a Victorian edifice on the same site; and

9 WHEREAS, The 1896 “gingerbread palace” Cliff House drew everyone, from working-
10 class families, the city’s social elite, and three U.S. Presidents to its doorsteps; and

11 WHEREAS, The grand structure withstood the great earthquake of 1906, but was
12 burned a year later and was re-opened in 1909 by Emma Sutro Merritt; and

13 WHEREAS, The Cliff House has survived a handful of destructive storms, two major
14 earthquakes, three nearby fires, two closures, several facelifts, and continual weather
15 challenges; and

16 WHEREAS, The Cliff House, has been a part of the Golden Gate National Recreation
17 Area since 1977; and the establishment is enjoying a renaissance following a two-year,
18 multimillion dollar restoration in 2004 which added the Sutro’s wing; and

19 WHEREAS, Cliff House has been operated by Dan and Mary Hountalas, grand
20 stewards of this renowned historic landmark for the past 40 years who oversee three
21 generations of employees and manage a very eco-friendly conscious business with the most
22 recent addition of a wind turbine; and

23 WHEREAS, Citizens of San Francisco are joining others to celebrate the 150th
24 Anniversary Celebration this July 2013; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 commends the Cliff House on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary for consistently serving
3 families, social elite, and major political leaders despite weather and environmental
4 challenges and

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
6 Francisco declares July 12, 2013 Cliff House Day in San Francisco.

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