

1 [Justice Blackmun]

2 HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE LATE JUSTICE HARRY A. BLACKMUN AND
3 COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE AS AN ATTORNEY AND JUDGE;
4 URGING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE POLICIES
5 BLACKMUN ADVOCATED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE VULNERABLE AND POWERLESS.
6

7 WHEREAS, Justice Harry A. Blackmun passed away last week at the
8 age of 90; and,

9 WHEREAS, Justice Blackmun served for 24 years on the United
10 States Supreme Court; and,

11 WHEREAS, Justice Blackmun worked tirelessly and diligently to
12 make reasoned decisions in the cases that came before him; and,

13 WHEREAS, Over his years on the Court, Justice Blackmun came to
14 be a voice for the vulnerable and powerless; and,

15 WHEREAS, Justice Blackmun wrote the opinion in Roe v. Wade, the
16 1973 decision that established a constitutional right for women to
17 obtain abortions; and,

18 WHEREAS, After the Roe decision, Blackmun continued to reaffirm
19 the constitutional right to abortion even when the Court at times
20 attempted to erode that right; and,

21 WHEREAS, Blackmun favored extending the constitutional right to
22 privacy to homosexual behavior between consenting adults, writing in
23 a dissenting opinion in Bowers v. Hardwick that "a necessary
24 corollary of giving individuals freedom to choose how to conduct
25

1 their lives is acceptance of the fact that different individuals will
2 make different choices"; and,

3 WHEREAS, Justice Blackmun opposed the use of the death penalty
4 because he believed it was administered in a random and arbitrary way
5 and therefore could not be carried out in a manner consistent with
6 the Constitution; and,

7 WHEREAS, In the seminal Bakke case, Blackmun dissented from the
8 majority on the Court and voted to uphold a minority admissions
9 program at the University of California; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County
11 of San Francisco honors the memory of the late Justice Blackmun and
12 commends him for his years of service as a lawyer and a judge and his
13 work on behalf of the vulnerable and powerless; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and
15 County of San Francisco will work to implement and enforce the
16 policies advocated by Justice Blackmun on behalf of the vulnerable
17 and powerless including upholding the right to privacy and protecting
18 individuals against discrimination.



City and County of San Francisco

Tails

Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 990458

Date Passed:

Resolution honoring the memory of the late Justice Harry A. Blackmun and commending him for his years of service as an attorney and judge; urging the Board of Supervisors to implement and enforce the policies Blackmun advocated for on behalf of the vulnerable and powerless.

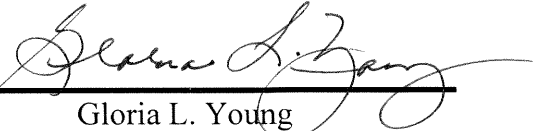
March 15, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 6 - Ammiano, Brown, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yee

Absent: 5 - Becerril, Bierman, Katz, Kaufman, Yaki

File No. 990458

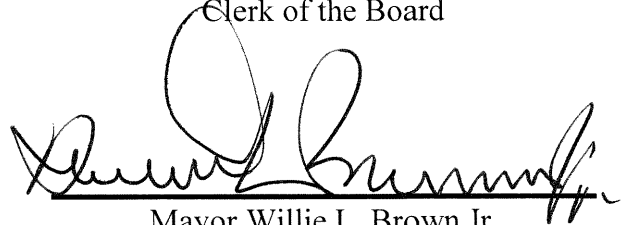
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution
was ADOPTED on March 15, 1999 by the
Board of Supervisors of the City and County
of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

MAR 26 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

File No. 990458 continued...