

1 [Resolution commending Martha Knutzen for distinguished public service]

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3 **Resolution commending Martha Knutzen for distinguished public service on the San**
4 **Francisco Human Rights Commission.**
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6 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen was appointed by Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. to the San
7 Francisco Human Rights Commission, and served from February 1996 until January 2004,
8 including as Chair from February 1996 to January 1998; and
9

10 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen was a hard-working Commissioner who dedicated herself
11 to understanding the diversity of human rights issues presented to the Commission, who
12 sought insight and creative ways to address these issues; and,

13 WHEREAS, during her tenure on the Human Rights Commission, Martha Knutzen co-
14 chaired the Commission's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Advisory Committee;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen lent her support to the Commission's
17 Minority/Women/Local Business Enterprise (M/W/LBE) Advisory Committee and was
18 instrumental in the continuation of San Francisco's M/W/LBE Program; and

19 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen initiated the Commission's efforts to address
20 discrimination on the basis of weight and height, which led to the enactment of protective
21 legislation by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in May 2000; and

22 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen spearheaded the Commission's exploration of the
23 economic status of the LGBT Community, including chairing a public hearing which led to the
24 development of the nation's first LGBT Neighborhood Economic Development Organization;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen provided leadership on the Commission's efforts to
2 address issues faced by Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer and Questioning
3 (LGBTQQ) youth, and she was instrumental in the Commission's public hearing on this
4 subject which led to the development of the Youth Commission's initiatives on LGBTQQ
5 youth, and later to the development of a position paper on the issue of LGBTQQ youth
6 homelessness; and

7 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen co-chaired a joint public hearing of the Human Rights
8 Commission and the Aging and Adult Services Commission on aging in the LGBT community,
9 which led to increased outreach by senior services organizations to LGBT seniors; and

10 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen was an important part of San Francisco Assessor Mabel
11 Teng's efforts to provide equality for domestic partners with respect to the taxes associated
12 with the transfer of real property; and

13 WHEREAS, Martha Knutzen represented San Francisco on the United Nations'
14 Committee on Ending Discrimination Against Women; and

15 WHEREAS, among the many things Martha Knutzen worked on as a Human Rights
16 Commissioner, she actively and creatively addressed issues of violence in minority
17 communities, environmental racism, the post-September 11, 2001 backlash against Arab and
18 Muslim Americans, and a wide array of other human rights concerns; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
20 expresses its deepest appreciation for the hard work and dedication of Martha Knutzen, and
21 for her eight years of exemplary service to the people of San Francisco; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
23 Francisco commends Martha Knutzen for her energy and commitment to advancing human
24 rights for all people.

25 SUPERVISORS DUFTY, AMMIANO, MA AND MAXWELL