

1 [Recognizing October 26, 2004 as the first annual Intersex Awareness Day.]
2

3 **Resolution recognizing October 26, 2004 as the first annual Intersex Awareness Day.**
4

5 WHEREAS, Approximately one in 2,000 children are born with visibly atypical (or
6 "intersex") reproductive organs and more are born with similar conditions that are less
7 apparent at birth; and
8

9 WHEREAS, The traditional medical protocol for treating intersex children is the
10 surgical concealment of intersex bodies under the assumption that intersex bodies are
11 abnormal and shameful; and

12 WHEREAS, Normalizing surgeries on intersex children are often pursued to alleviate
13 parental anxieties even when they are not medically necessary; and

14 WHEREAS, Long-term studies of normalizing reconstructive surgeries have
15 associated them with potentially harmful psychological and sexual long-term outcomes; and

16 WHEREAS, Since 1993, a number of adults who were subjected to these surgeries as
17 children have organized to call for an end to shame, secrecy and medically unnecessary
18 genital surgeries on children too young to participate in the medical decision-making; and

19 WHEREAS, The Human Rights Commission of San Francisco held the nation's first
20 public hearing on the question of unwanted hormonal and surgical interventions in children
21 born with ambiguous genitals; and

22 WHEREAS, Many people with intersex anatomies testified to the severe pain and
23 suffering caused by the social and medical concealment of intersex bodies; now therefore be
24 it

1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 applauds the effort of intersex patient advocates and their medical professional allies to end
3 shame, secrecy and medically unnecessary genital surgeries on infants and children; and be
4 it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of City and
6 County of San Francisco recognizes October 26, 2004 as the first annual Intersex Awareness
7 Day.

8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25