

1 [Affirming All LGBTQ Youth & Denouncing all Forms of Bullying and Ridicule]
2 **Resolution affirming the supportive voice of The San Francisco Youth Commission to**
3 **all Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth, denouncing**
4 **all forms of bullying and ridicule towards any youth in our City, and highlighting local**
5 **efforts to offer support, prevent bullying and raise awareness about services available**
6 **for San Francisco’s LGBTQ youth.**

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8 WHEREAS, Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi committed suicide after
9 classmates invaded his privacy and streamed his intimate encounter with another man online;
10 and,

11 WHEREAS, Tyler Clementi’s is one of several suicides in recent weeks by gay youth
12 across the U.S. that had been harassed by classmates prior to taking their lives; and,

13 WHEREAS, a recent survey of 22,000 San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)
14 middle school and high school students reported that over 80% of SFUSD students had heard
15 derogatory statements based on sexual orientation in the previous school year;¹ and,

16 WHEREAS, over 50% of SFUSD students identifying as LGBTQ reported being bullied
17 or harassed due to their sexual orientation in the previous 12 months;² and,

18 WHEREAS, SFUSD’s LGBTQ students were 4 times more likely to have attempted
19 suicide with nearly 50% stating that they had seriously considered suicide in the previous 12
20 months; and,

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23 ¹ 2007-2008 SFUSD School Climate Survey (SCS). Middle School:

24 <http://healthiersf.org/Resources/docs/schoolClimate/MS%20SCS%20District%20Report%202008.pdf> (page 8);
High School:

25 <http://healthiersf.org/Resources/docs/schoolClimate/HS%20SCS%20School%20Report%20DISTRICT.pdf> (page
8).

² SFUSD LGBTQ Student Support Services powerpoint presentation,
<http://www.healthiersf.org/lgbtq/GetTheFacts/health.html> (slides 30 & 31).

1 WHEREAS, SFUSD recognizes in its Anti-Slur Policy that harassment and bullying of
2 any kind is “incompatible with the mission of SFUSD...that includes creating a learning
3 environment that respects diversity, educates about the harm of name calling and imposes
4 consequences for name calling;”³ and,

5 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area is home to several LGBTQ organizations
6 offering support to youth in our schools, including Ally Action, AQU25A, COLAGE, Community
7 United Against Violence (CUAV), Dimensions Health Clinic, Frameline, Gay-Straight Alliance
8 Network, LYRIC, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Our Family
9 Coalition, Respect for All Project, and the San Francisco LGBT Center; and,

10 WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco has
11 affirmed the importance of maintaining the City and County of San Francisco’s social safety
12 net for LGBTQ youth, especially mental health and youth support services; and,

13 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education has
14 recognized its need to “reaffirm and strengthen its commitment to LGBTQ students (1996)
15 and has continued its work of the Student Support Services Department’s Support Services
16 for LGBTQ youth, made curriculum enhancements involving sexual orientation, and has
17 improved other counseling and wellness offerings for LGBTQ students;”⁴ now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission offers its support and voice to
19 the actions of the City and County of San Francisco, its Board of Supervisors, the SFUSD
20 Board of Education, and the many teachers, parents, individuals and agencies that offer
21 valuable and much-needed guidance, support and understanding to all of our City’s LGBTQ
22 Youth; and be it

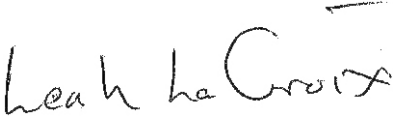
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25 ³ “Anti-Slur Policy,” SFUSD Board Policy No. 5162.

⁴ Resolution No. 610-8A6, “Meeting the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Students.”

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission encourages all
2 efforts to stop bullying, raise awareness about LGBTQ youth issues, and foster respect and
3 understanding for all youth of the City and County of San Francisco, the state of California
4 and the United States of America.

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11 LEAH LACROIX, CHAIR

12 OCTOBER 18, 2010

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