

1 [Resolution urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to support the establishment of
2 required LGBT cultural competency trainings for caregivers of foster youth (AB 1856)]
3 **Resolution urging the Mayor and San Francisco Board of Supervisors to support**
4 **Assembly Bill 1856, which would require caregivers of foster youth to be trained in**
5 **cultural competency and best practices for providing adequate care for lesbian, gay,**
6 **bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQQ) youth.**
7

8 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQQ)
9 youth are more susceptible to harassment, violence, and discrimination than their straight
10 counterparts; and,
11

12 WHEREAS, 26% of LGBTQQ youth are forced to leave their families of origin as a
13 result of conflicts with their parents regarding their sexual orientation or gender identity, and
14 many of these LGBTQQ youth end up on the street, but some go to foster homes;¹ and
15

16 WHEREAS, There are very few studies of LGBTQQ foster youth, but one study in New
17 York City found that 100% of LGBTQQ youth in New York City group homes reported that
18 they were verbally harassed on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity while at
19 their group home, 70% reported physical violence due to their sexual orientation or gender
20 identity;² and
21

22 WHEREAS, 78% were removed or ran away from their foster placements as a result of
23
24

25 ¹ <http://www.youthprideri.org/Resources/Statistics/tabid/227/Default.aspx>

² <http://www.youthprideri.org/Resources/Statistics/tabid/227/Default.aspx>


1 hostility toward their sexual orientation or gender identity, and 56% spent time living on the
2 streets because they felt “safer” there than they did living in their group or foster home;³ and
3

4 WHEREAS, 78% of LGBTQ foster youth don’t feel safe in their group homes because
5 of their gender identity and/or sexual orientation;⁴ and
6

7 WHEREAS, LGBTQQ foster youth face a great deal of disadvantages, and under the
8 law they deserve equal access to services; and
9

10 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1856 (Ammiano), which is currently being considered by the
11 California State Legislature, would require existing training programs for caregivers of foster
12 youth to include cultural competency training to best meet the needs of LGBTQQ foster youth;
13 now, therefore, be it
14

15 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges Mayor Lee and the
16 Board of Supervisors to support AB 1856, such that providers of foster youth can be
17 adequately trained to meet the unique needs of LGBTQQ foster youth.

18 

19 _____
20

21 LEAH LACROIX

22 2011-2012 YOUTH COMMISSION CHAIR

23 ADOPTED BY YOUTH COMMISSION, JUNE 18, 2012
24

25 ³ Ibid.
⁴ Ibid.