[Motion to Support ACA 5 - Marriage Equality]

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission supports the right to equal marriage; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 16% of Generation Z identify as LGBTQ+, and deserve equal rights and protections; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, California voters narrowly passed a homophobic California Constitutional Amendment (Proposition 8) defining marriage as between one man and one woman; and

WHEREAS, This amendment was overturned in court, allowing for same sex marriage in California, but this language remains in the California Constitution; and

WHEREAS, California Assemblymember Low, with principle coauthors Assemblymembers Cervantes, Jackson, Lee, Ward, Zbur, and Senators Atkins, Eggman, Laird, Menjivar, Padilla, and Wiener, and with coauthors Assemblymembers Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Connolly, Mike Fong, Friedman, Gabriel, Haney, Hart, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Lowenthal, Maienschein, McCarty, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Stephanie Nguyen, Ortega, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silver, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Santiago, Ting, Wallis, Weber, Wicks, Wilson, Wood, and Senators Allen, Archuleta, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Bradford, Caballero, Cortese, Dodd, Durazo, Glazer, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Limón, McGuire, Min, Newman, Portantino, Roth, Rubio, Skinner, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Umberg, and Wahab, introduced Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 to express the intent of the Legislature to remove the aforementioned language defining
1. marriage as between one man and one woman and guarantee the right to equal
2. marriage; and
3. WHEREAS, Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5, if passed, will go before
4. California voters for approval; and therefore be it
5. MOVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission supports Assembly
6. Constitutional Amendment 5; and be it
7. MOVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission Chair and staff shall send a
8. Letter of Support for Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 (attached) to
9. Assemblymember Low and members of the California Assembly and California Senate.
Motion to Support ACA 5 - Marriage Equality

Supplemental Information:

See attached document [Letter of Support]
Re: Support for ACA 5 (Low) - Marriage Equality

Dear Assemblymember Low,

On behalf of the San Francisco Youth Commission, I am writing in support of ACA 5 (Low), which will, if approved by voters, remove homophobic language from the California Constitution and amend it to guarantee the fundamental right to equal marriage.

The Youth Commission is a body of 17 youth from San Francisco between the ages of 12 and 23. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter, the Commission is responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comment and recommendation on all proposed laws that would primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

In 2008, California voters narrowly approved Proposition 8, adding language to the California Constitution defining marriage as between one man and one woman. While this was overturned in court, the language remains a part of the California Constitution.

The Youth Commission is proud to support and advocate for equal rights for all people. Approximately 16% of Generation Z identify as LGBTQ+, and they all are entitled to equal rights and protections. We feel this amendment to our California
Constitution is not only a statement of California’s support for the LGBTQ+ community, but also necessary to continue to protect the right to equal marriage, particularly as new efforts are underway nationwide to undo the progress made on equal marriage rights.

We thank you for your work on this important issue, and we are proud to support ACA 5.

Sincerely,

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Emily Nguyen, Chair

Adopted 2022-2023 San Francisco Youth Commission