## FILE NO. 021481

## RESOLUTION NO. 631-02

[Commending Big Brothers Big Sisters]

Resolution commending Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBS), an awardwinning youth organization that allows gay and lesbian volunteers the equal opportunity to serve as one-on-one mentors to children.

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is devoted to helping children from single-parent homes by providing them with long-term one-on-one mentorships with caring adults; and

WHEREAS, These mentorships are proven to promote youths' self-esteem, expand their awareness of life's opportunities and provides them with long-term guidance and support; and

WHEREAS, For more than 25 years, Big Brothers and Big Sisters has endorsed a nondiscrimination policy which includes sexual orientation, race, religion and ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, In July 2002, the organization adopted a mandatory policy of including gay and lesbian volunteers and told all 490 local affiliates to give openly gay and lesbian volunteers an equal chance to service as mentors; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters has reaffirmed its commitment to gay and lesbians despite public pressure from conservative Christian groups who have asked BBBS donors to cease their support; and

WHEREAS, Every week over 400 men and women of San Francisco and the Peninsula share their lives with their Little Brothers and Little Sisters; and

WHEREAS, The mentors involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Francisco & the Peninsula who identify as gay and lesbian can continue to enrich the lives of underprivileged youth; now, therefore be it,

\*\*Supervisor Leno\*\*, Maxwell BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby commends Big Brothers Big Sisters of America for its commitment to equal rights and opportunities for gay and lesbian men and women; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors for the City and County of San Francisco send copies of this resolution to Attn: Mr. Bill Odell, President, Big Brothers Big Sisters, 870 Market Street, Suite 928, San Francsico, CA 94102 and to Attn: Ms. Judy Verdenburgh, President and CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, National Office, 230 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

\*\*Supervisor Leno\*\* BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City Hall l Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

## Resolution

File Number: 021481

Date Passed:

Resolution commending Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBS), an award-winning youth organization that allows gay and lesbian volunteers the equal opportunity to serve as one-on-one mentors to children.

August 26, 2002 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 8 - Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee
Absent: 3 - Ammiano, McGoldrick, Newsom

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on August 26, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young Clerk of the Board

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

SEP 0 6 2002

Date Approved

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