

1 [Commendation.]

2
3 **Resolution commending the Coalition on Homelessness for their tireless work on**
4 **organizing and advocating with the homeless community in San Francisco.**

5 WHEREAS, the Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco (COH) was organized in 1987 to
6 garner the active participation of poor people on both the design and critique of public policy
7 and non-profit services that result in permanent solutions to poverty.

8 WHEREAS, COH is a unique organization made up of low income and homeless people,
9 working in every aspect of the organization, from the volunteers to the staff and leadership
10 body.

11 WHEREAS, COH works to alleviate poverty by taking a multi-faceted strategy, attacking the
12 forces that cause poverty from all sides. This strategy makes sure homeless and poor people
13 know their rights in participating in the shaping and formulating of public policy.

14 WHEREAS, COH's Civil Rights Legal Division links organizing and outreach activities with
15 appropriate legal responses to homelessness. This fights inequities through participatory
16 legal actions, while at the same time creating a pro-active agenda to end civil rights abuses of
17 homeless people in San Francisco.

18 WHEREAS, COH's Family Rights and Dignity Project seeks to reshape institutions and
19 policies relevant to poor families by creating a political alliance of homeless and low income
20 parents; opening channels of access to elected officials and policy makers, demanding
21 representation on policy-making entities, and conducting public education campaigns to
22 develop an understanding of the underlying causes of poverty and homelessness.

23 WHEREAS, COH's Housing Not Borders focuses on undocumented homeless immigrants
24 who are increasingly facing growing hostilities, denial of services and San Francisco Police
25 Department arbitrary arrests and round-ups of unemployed laborers. Housing Not Borders
26 operates as a "support system", providing a culturally and secure atmosphere to organize,
27 educate and mobilize homeless Latinos and residents of the Mission District to promote social
28 and economic justice.

WHEREAS, COH's Shelter Outreach Project visits shelters serving homeless individuals and
families three times weekly to provide information on pertinent COH activities and available
resources. Shelter visits generate feedback from homeless people regarding shelter
conditions and effectiveness of services. This information guides the Coalition to ensure

SUPERVISOR DALY, Peskin, Newsom

1 development of programs, services and policies which truly serve the people they are
2 designed to serve.

3 WHEREAS, COH's Substance Abuse Mental Health Work Group (SAMH) addresses the
4 quality and inadequate supply of substance abuse and mental health services in San
5 Francisco. The goal of SAMH is to preserve and improve existing treatment services, as well
6 as to expand these desperately needed services city wide.

7 WHEREAS, the Coalition publishes the Street Sheet, a monthly newspaper written primarily
8 by homeless and formerly homeless people, which is sold by homeless vendors in San
9 Francisco for \$1. In addition, the Street Sheet provides a perspective on homelessness
10 through its editorial policy and artwork that is not available in the mainstream media.

11 WHEREAS, the Coalition believes that homelessness cannot be alleviated without intensive
12 outreach, support, training, and organizing in order for homeless people to participate in
13 planning and advocacy efforts and in the formation of government and social practices,
14 programs, and policies.

15 BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors commend the Coalition on
16 Homelessness for their comprehensive work providing much needed services and programs
17 for the homeless population of San Francisco, and in their efforts organizing to end
18 homelessness.



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 010594

Date Passed:

Resolution commending the Coalition on Homelessness for their tireless work on organizing and advocating with the homeless community in San Francisco.

April 9, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval
Absent: 1 - Yee

File No. 010594

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 9, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Jean Lum
Jean Lum
Acting Clerk of the Board

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

April 20, 2001

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.

Gloria L. Goetz
Clerk of the Board

File No.
010594