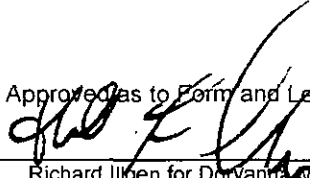


FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

13 MAY 16 PM 2:05

Approved as to Form and Legality

  
Richard Illgen for Doryanna Moreno  
Oakland City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PATRICIA KERNIGHAN**

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### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE LAST CLOSET CAMPAIGN URGING THE COMMISSIONERS OF MEN'S PROFESSIONAL SPORTS LEAGUES TO PUBLICLY SUPPORT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER ATHLETES**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland has been the proud home to three professional sports teams that have electrified and united our city: the Oakland Athletics, the Oakland Raiders and the Golden State Warriors; and

**WHEREAS**, Oaklanders of all genders, races, sexual preferences, and classes celebrate our teams' accomplishments as shared victories, yet gay professional athletes feel the need to remain closeted; and

**WHEREAS**, unlike most other professions today, participants in professional sports believe they cannot be open about their sexual orientation; until recently no active male player in any of the five major professional sports leagues in the United States has ever publicly acknowledged being gay; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. military, once one of the last bastions of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender ("LGBT") individuals, now recognizes the need to address prejudice openly, instead of assuming it does not exist; and

**WHEREAS**, bias-based harassment is far too often complicit in the disturbing number of LGBT youth taking their own lives; and

**WHEREAS**, our LGBT youth need LGBT sports heroes, in addition to other influential role models; and

**WHEREAS**, with this in mind, the Last Closet Project campaign leadership, under the auspices of the nonprofit organization Woman Vision, is seeking

interviews with all the major league sports Commissioners for the purpose of filming a statement of affirmation for LGBT athletes; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** that we members of the Oakland City Council respectfully request that the Commissioners of Baseball, Football, Basketball, Hockey and Soccer use the authority of their respective offices to refuse to sanction discrimination against LGBT players and to take affirmative steps to embrace LBGT professional athletes as positive role models; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** that we Councilmembers state our support for LGBT players and invite them to come out and, once they are out, pledge our efforts to make them safe and accepted; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig, Football Commissioner Roger Goodell, Basketball Commissioner David Stern, Hockey Commissioner Gary Bettman and Soccer Commissioner Don Garber.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID,  
SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -  
ABSENT -  
ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

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LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California