

Resolution

WHEREAS, Thomas F. Coleman has advocated vigorously for gay rights, singles' rights, and family diversity over the last four decades; and

WHEREAS, his advocacy for gay rights contributed to the initial inclusion of sexual orientation as a protected category under California's hate crime laws, and prompted administrative agencies in California to enforce legal protections against sexual orientation discrimination in housing and employment for the first time in California; and

WHEREAS, his advocacy for family diversity is evidenced by his role as principal consultant and author of the final report of the Los Angeles City Task Force on Family Diversity and as a member of the California Legislature's Joint Select Task Force on the Changing Family – study commissions which laid the groundwork for legal protections and benefits being extended to domestic partners in the City of Los Angeles and throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, his advocacy for singles' rights is evidenced by his role as Chairperson of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination and the California Insurance Commissioner's Anti-Discrimination Task Force – study commissions which stimulated major media attention to the problem widespread discrimination against unmarried individuals, couples, and families as tenants and consumers, and to the need for policy reforms to prohibit such discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the advocacy efforts of Thomas F. Coleman have extended to all levels and all branches of government, within California and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, his victories with the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government concerning LGBT rights, singles' rights, and family diversity have benefitted residents of Los Angeles as employees, tenants, and consumers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coleman has recently published a book – *The Domino Effect* – documenting how his strategic moves for gay rights, singles' rights and family diversity have touched the lives of millions of people throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, a reception is being held in Los Angeles on October 11, 2009, to honor the author and to show appreciation to people mentioned in *The Domino Effect* for their roles in helping to create positive changes in law and public policy around these issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council along with the Mayor, City Controller, and City Attorney do hereby commend THOMAS F. COLEMAN for his decades of advocacy for justice and equal rights, and expresses its appreciation to those people mentioned in *The Domino Effect* who, along with Mr. Coleman, created positive and lasting changes which have benefitted millions of residents in our City, state, and nation.