WHEREAS, Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the nationally-acclaimed Children’s Defense Fund, has extensive experience working on health, education, daycare, early childhood development, and childhood safety policy issues at the national and international levels, and has written numerous books on a variety of children’s issues; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Edelman, a graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School, began her career in the mid-60s when, as the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi State Bar, she directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, under Mrs. Edelman’s leadership, the Children’s Defense Fund has become the nation’s strongest voice for children and families; and

WHEREAS, Marian Wright Edelman has received over a hundred honorary degrees and many awards including the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Prize, the Heinz Award, and a MacArthur Foundation Prize Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Mrs. Edelman received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Lifetime Achievement Award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby commend

Marian Wright Edelman

in appreciation of her support for children all over the world. Mrs. Edelman has stated, “Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time.”

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this Twenty Second day of May, Two thousand Twelve by unanimous vote.

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George Shirakawa
President, Board of Supervisors

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Mike Wasserman
Supervisor, District One

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Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four

Attest: Lynn Regadan, Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors

Approved as to Form and Legality

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County Counsel

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Liz Kniss
Supervisor, District Five

Date 5-10-12