

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2017/208

Honoring the memory of Bobbie Josephine Arnold, a resident of Richmond, community activist, labor organizer, and dedicated Contra Costa County employee.

Whereas, Bobbie Josephine Arnold was born in Austin, Texas and moved to Los Angeles, California during high school, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School at age 16 as valedictorian of her class; and Whereas, Bobbie Arnold moved to Richmond, California attending Contra Costa Community College where she majored in business and economics with a minor in English, earning an AA degree while working in the Dean's office; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold, while still in school, was immediately offered a job with what was then called the Contra Costa Social Service Department (now Employment & Human Services) after typing 75 words a minute with no errors during her interview, which was conducted during her lunch hour from another job. They asked if she could start that afternoon; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold worked as a clerk for Employment and Human Services (EHSD), got married, had two children, moved to the Parchester Village neighborhood of Richmond, and started organizing EHSD clerks, who had no union representation, to form United Clerical Employees, their first union. Ms. Arnold served as union president for two terms; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold was also dedicated to local community politics and activism and was appointed as an alternate to the Democratic Central Committee, then elected to the Committee, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chair, and twice as Chair. She also served simultaneously as Chair of the 11th Assembly District with Assemblyman Robert Campbell and of the 14th Assembly District with Assembly members Dion Aroner and Loni Hancock; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold served as assistant to Richmond Mayors Irma Anderson and Rosemary Corbin, regional manager of the California Democratic Party, Chair of the Black Caucus of the California Democratic Party, Contra Costa Mental Health Commission member, and member of the City of Richmond's Community & Economic Development Commission; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold's rich history of service included serving as Basileus of Beta Pi Sigma Sorority; chair of the Black Women Organized for Political Action, Contra Costa Chapter; chair of the National Women's Political Caucus, Contra Costa County; and president of the National Institute of Art & Disability (NIAD) in Richmond; and

Whereas, Bobbie Arnold, who recently passed away, helped improve the lives of thousands of Contra Costa County residents in many arenas from the workplace to the neighborhood to the region. Her legacy will not be forgotten; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor the memory of Bobbie Josephine Arnold, a dedicated community activist and County employee. Her impact lives on in her legacy of service.

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
Chair, District V Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS
District III Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: June 6, 2017

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy