Eaw Department

# COUNCIL BILL No. 113938

AN ORDINANCE related to contracts; creating a new Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 20.45 requiring contractors on City contracts to provide employee benefits to their employees with domestic partners equivalent to those provided to their employees with spouses.

COMPTROLLER FILE No.

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Third Reading	Signed:
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Vetoed by Mayor:	Veto Published
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# The City of Seattle--Legislative Department

Date Reported

	REPORT OF COMMITTEE
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BHT 6-0,	(1 Hatentia) is Pres to towassed JC, TP, PS, EC, EM, NI MO MINENDED (COUNCED : Pessed 9-0) AS Amended
	Committee Chair

## ordinance <u>1197</u>48

AN ORDINANCE related to contracts; creating a new Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 20.45 requiring
contractors on City contracts to provide employee benefits to their employees with domestic
partners equivalent to those provided to their employees with spouses.

WHEREAS, employee benefits routinely comprise between 30 and 40 percent of total employee compensation; and

WHEREAS, discrimination in the provision of employee benefits between employees with domestic partners and employees with spouses results in unequal pay for equal work; and

WHEREAS, Seattle law prohibits discrimination based on marital status and/or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, contractors with the City of Seattle are required to comply with the City's nondiscrimination laws; and

WHEREAS, it is the City's intent, through the contracting practices outlined herein, to equalize the total compensation between similarly situated employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners; Now, therefore

#### BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. There is hereby added to the Seattle Municipal Code a new Chapter 20.45 to read as follows:

### Chapter 20.45 City Contracts - Non-Discrimination in Benefits

20.45.010 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter,

- A. "Contract" means a contract for public works, consulting, or supplies, material, equipment or services as set forth in SMC Ch. 3.18.800 et seq., estimated to cost Thirty Three Thousand Dollars (\$33,000.00) or more in 1999, consistent with the competitive threshold requirements of, and as adjusted pursuant to, Seattle Municipal Code Sections 3.18.840 and 3.114.140.
- B. "Contract awarding authority" means the City officer, department, commission, employee, or board authorized to enter into or to administer contracts on behalf of the City.

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- C. "Department" means the Executive Services Department.
- D. "Director" means the Executive Services Department Director.
- E. "Domestic Partner" means any person who is registered with his/her employer as a domestic partner, or, in the absence of such employer-provided registry, is registered as a domestic partner with a governmental body pursuant to state or local law authorizing such registration. Any internal employer registry of domestic partnership must comply with criteria for domestic partnerships specified by rule by the Department.
- F. "Employee benefits" means the provision of bereavement leave; disability, life, and other types of insurance; family medical leave; health benefits; membership or membership discounts; moving expenses; pension and retirement benefits; vacation; travel benefits; and any other benefits given to employees, provided that it does not include benefits to the extent that the application of the requirements of this chapter to such benefits may be preempted by federal or state law.

#### 20.45.020 Discrimination in the provision of benefits prohibited.

- A. No contractor on a City contract shall discriminate in the provision of employee benefits between an employee with a domestic partner and an employee with a spouse, subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. In the event that the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the domestic partner of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the spouse of an employee, or the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the spouse of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the domestic partner of an employee, the contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision

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of employee benefits if the contractor conditions providing such benefit up	on the
employee agreeing to pay the excess costs.	

- 2. The contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits if, despite taking reasonable measures to do so, the contractor is unable to extend a particular employee benefit to domestic partners, so long as the contractor provides the employee with a cash equivalent.
- B. Other options for compliance allowed.

Provided that a contractor does not discriminate in the provision of benefits between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, a contractor may:

- Elect to provide benefits to individuals in addition to employees' spouses and employees' domestic partners;
- 2. Allow each employee to designate a legally domiciled member of the employee's household as being eligible for spousal equivalent benefits; or
- Provide benefits neither to employees' spouses nor to employees' domestic partners.
- C. Requirements inapplicable under certain conditions.

The Director may waive the requirements of this chapter where:

- 1. Award of a contract or amendment is necessary to respond to an emergency;
- 2. The contractor is a sole source;
- 3. No compliant contractors are capable of providing goods or services that respond to the City's requirements;

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- 4. The contractor is a public entity;
- 5. The requirements are inconsistent with a grant, subvention or agreement with a public agency;
- 6. The City is purchasing through a cooperative or joint purchasing agreement;
- D. Requests for waivers of the terms of this Chapter are to be made to the Department by the contract awarding authority in a manner prescribed by the Department. Decisions by the Department to issue or deny waivers are final.
- E. The Director may reject an entity's bid or proposal, or terminate a contract, if the Director determines that the entity was set up, or is being used, for the purpose of evading the intent of this Chapter.
- F. No contract awarding authority shall execute a contract with a contractor unless such contractor has agreed that the contractor will not discriminate in the provision of employee benefits as provided for in this chapter.
- G. All contracts awarded by the City shall contain provisions developed by the Department prohibiting discrimination in the provision of employee benefits, including provisions containing appropriate remedies for the breach thereof as prescribed by SMC Ch. 20.45.040, except as exempted by this chapter or rule.

#### **20.45.030** Limitations.

The requirements of this Chapter only shall apply to those portions of a contractor's operations that occur (i) within the City; (ii) on real property outside of the City if the property is owned by the City or if the City has a right to occupy the property, and if the contractor's presence at that location is connected to a contract with the City; and (iii) elsewhere in the United States where work related to a

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City contract is being performed. The requirements of this Chapter shall not apply to subcontracts or subcontractors of any contract or contractor.

#### 20.45.40 Powers and duties of the Director.

The Executive Services Department Director shall have the power to:

- A. Adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with this chapter and the Administrative Code of The City of Seattle (SMC Chapter 3.02), establishing standards and procedures for effectively carrying out this chapter;
- B. Determine and impose appropriate sanctions and/or liquidated damages for violation of this chapter by contractors including, but are not limited to:
  - Disqualification of the contractor from bidding on or being awarded a City 1. contract for a period of up to 5 years; and
  - 2. Contractual remedies, including, but not limited to, liquidated damages and termination of the contract.
  - C. Examine contractor's benefit programs covered by this chapter;
  - Impose other appropriate contractual and civil remedies and sanctions for violations of D. this chapter;
  - E. Allow for remedial action after a finding of non-compliance, as specified by rule.
- F. Perform such other duties as may be required by ordinance or which are necessary to implement the purposes of this chapter.

#### 20.45.050 Effective date.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any contract awarded on or after September 30, 2000.

Section 2. On October 1, 2001, the Department will present to the Council a status report on the implementation of these provisions. This status report will include options for expanding the provisions to cover additional City contracts, including but not limited to employee benefits, franchise, concessions, and contracts under the formal competitive bid threshold, and will specifically outline alternative program options and associated resource requirements.

Section 3. Consistent with the Copernicus project objectives of improving and streamlining our contracting processes while still pursuing important social and economic policies of the City, the Department will evaluate the provisions of the new "Boost" program, this "Non-Discrimination in Benefits" ordinance, and the "City Contracts—Prevention of Discrimination Ordinance (SMC Ch. 20.44) in order to recommend ways to harmonize the various rules, processes and legislation with each other and with existing rules, processes and legislation related to contracting. By September 30, 2000, the Department will present to the Council a proposal for reducing time and cost of contracting, from a baseline established in December of 1999. On October 1, 2001, the Department's status report to Council on implementation and possible expansion of the provisions of this Chapter will include documentation of further contract processing efficiencies.

Section 4. Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. However, if the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this ordinance in all other respects, and the offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances, shall remain valid and enforceable.

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ORDINANCE

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WHEREAS, Seattle law prohibits discrimination based on marital status and/or sexual orientation; and

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  - 1. In the event that the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the domestic partner of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the spouse of an employee, or the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the spouse of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the domestic partner of an employee, the contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits if the



- contractor conditions providing such benefit upon the employee agreeing to pay the excess costs.
- 2. The contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits if, despite taking reasonable measures to do so, the contractor is unable to extend a particular employee benefit to domestic partners, so long as the contractor provides the employee with a cash equivalent.
- B. No contract awarding authority shall execute a contract with a contractor unless such contractor has filed with the City in the form prescribed by the Department, a certification that the contractor will not discriminate in the provision of employee benefits as provided for in this chapter.
- C. All contracts awarded by the City shall contain provisions developed by the Department prohibiting discrimination in the provision of employee benefits and appropriate remedies for the breach thereof.

20.45.020 Definitions.

- A. "Contract" means a contract for public works, consulting, purchasing, employee benefits, franchise, concession, banking and other financial services, and other service contracts as determined by rule by the Department.
- B. "Contract awarding authority" means the City officer, department, commission, employee, or board authorized to enter into or to administer contracts on behalf of the City.
  - C. "Department" means the Executive Services Department.
- D. "Domestic Partner" means any person who has a current domestic partnership registered with a governmental body pursuant to state or local law authorizing such registration.
- E. "Employee benefits" means the provision of bereavement leave; disability, life, and other types of insurance; family medical leave; health benefits; membership or membership discounts;



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moving expenses; pension

moving expenses; pension and retirement benefits; vacation; travel benefits; and any other benefits given to employees, provided that it does not include benefits to the extent that the application of the requirements of this chapter to such benefits is preempted by federal or state law.

20.45.030 Limitations.

The requirements of this Chapter only shall apply to those portions of a contractor's operations that occur (i) within the City; (ii) on real property outside of the City owned by the City or which the City has a right to occupy if the contractor's presence at that location is connected to a contract with the City; and (iii) elsewhere in the United States where work related to a City contract is being performed. The requirements of this Chapter shall not apply to subcontracts or subcontractors of any contract or contractor.

20.45.040 Department's responsibilities and duties.

- A. Duties. The Department shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of the requirements of this Chapter. Administration and enforcement of the requirements of this Chapter include the following duties:
  - Development of remedies for violations of this chapter. Examples of remedies include,
     but are not limited to:
    - a. Disqualification of the contractor from bidding on or being awarded a City contract or from participating as a subcontractor on a City contract for a period of up to 5 years;
       and
    - b. Contractual remedies, including but not limited to liquidated damages, and termination of the contract.



- 2. Development of contract language making it a material breach of the contract to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits between an employee with a domestic partner and an employee with a spouse;
- 3. Development of declarations of compliance with the requirements of this chapter;
- 4. Development of exemptions to this chapter for emergency contracts, sole source contracts, small contracts and other similar situations.
- 5. Development of rules defining other service contracts that are subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- **B.** Powers. The Department shall have all powers necessary for the administration and enforcement of the requirements of this chapter, including but not limited to:
  - 1. Examination of contractor's benefit programs covered by this chapter;
  - 2. Imposition of appropriate contractual and civil remedies and sanctions for violations of this chapter; and
  - 3. Promulgation of rules and procedures consistent with this chapter.

20.45.50. Effective date.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any contract executed on or after June 1, 2000.

Section 2. Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. However, if the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this



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1	ordinance in all other respe	ects, and the	offendir	ng provision	with respect t	o all other persons	s and all other
2	circumstances, shall remain	n valid and	enforcea	ble.			
3	Section 3. This or	rdinance sha	all take o	effect and be	e in force thir	ty (30) days from	n and after its
4	approval by the Mayor, I	out if not a	pproved	and returne	ed by the Ma	yor within ten (	10) days after
5	presentation, it shall take ef	fect as provi	ded by N	Iunicipal Co	ode Section 1.0	4.020.	
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7	session in authentication of						
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9		Ī	President	of	the City Coun	 zi <b>l</b>	
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#### **Amendments to Council Bill 112928**

Proposed by Councilmember Podlodowski November 22, 1999

### On Page 3, Line 3

#### **Delete section 3:**

3. Where the Director determines that the requirements of this chapter would result in the City's entering into a contract with an entity that was set up, or is being used, for the purpose of evading the intent of this chapter.

### On Page 4, Line 2

#### Add section D:

D. The Director may refuse to grant a waiver under this section if doing so would result in the City's entering a contract with an entity that was set up, or is being used, for the purposes of evading the intent of this Chapter.

Page 4: re-letter sections to reflect the insertion of section D

Change section letter:

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D.

"Director" means the Executive Services Department Director.

- E. "Domestic Partner" means any person who is registered with his/her employer as a domestic partner, or, in the absence of such employer-provided registry, is registered as a domestic partner with a governmental body pursuant to state or local law authorizing such registration. Any internal employer registry of domestic partnership must comply with criteria for domestic partnerships specified by rule by the Department.
- F. "Employee benefits" means the provision of bereavement leave; disability, life, and other types of insurance; family medical leave; health benefits; membership or membership discounts; moving expenses; pension and retirement benefits; vacation; travel benefits; and any other benefits given to employees, provided that it does not include benefits to the extent that the application of the requirements of this chapter to such benefits may be preempted by federal or state law.

#### 20.45.020 Discrimination in the provision of benefits prohibited.

- A. No contractor on a City contract shall discriminate in the provision of employee benefits between an employee with a domestic partner and an employee with a spouse, subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. In the event that the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the domestic partner of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the spouse of an employee, or the contractor's actual cost of providing a particular benefit for the spouse of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the domestic partner of an employee, the contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits if the contractor conditions providing such benefit upon the employee agreeing to pay the excess costs.
  - 2. The contractor shall not be deemed to discriminate in the provision of employee benefits if, despite taking reasonable measures to do so, the contractor is unable to

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The requirements are inconsistent with a grant, subvention or agreement with a

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- 6. The City is purchasing through a cooperative or joint purchasing agreement;
- 7. Where the Director determines that the requirements of this chapter would result in the City's entering into a contract with an entity that was set up, or is being used, for the purpose of evading the intent of this chapter.
- D. Requests for waivers of the terms of this chapter are to be made to the Department by the contract awarding authority in a manner prescribed by the Department. Decisions by the Department to issue or deny waivers are final.
- E. No contract awarding authority shall execute a contract with a contractor unless such contractor has agreed that the contractor will not discriminate in the provision of employee benefits as provided for in this chapter.
- F. All contracts awarded by the City shall contain provisions developed by the Department prohibiting discrimination in the provision of employee benefits, including provisions containing appropriate remedies for the breach thereof as prescribed by SMC Ch. 20.45.040, except as exempted by this chapter or rule.

#### **20.45.030** Limitations.

The requirements of this Chapter only shall apply to those portions of a contractor's operations that occur (i) within the City; (ii) on real property outside of the City if the property is owned by the City or if the City has a right to occupy the property, and if the contractor's presence at that location is connected to a contract with the City; and (iii) elsewhere in the United States where work related to a City contract is being performed. The requirements of this Chapter shall not apply to subcontracts or subcontractors of any contract or contractor.

#### 20.45.40 Powers and duties of the Director.

The Executive Services Department Director shall have the power to:

- A. Adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with this chapter and the Administrative Code of The City of Seattle (SMC Chapter 3.02), establishing standards and procedures for effectively carrying out this chapter;
- B. Determine and impose appropriate sanctions and/or liquidated damages for violation of this chapter by contractors including, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Disqualification of the contractor from bidding on or being awarded a City contract for a period of up to 5 years; and
  - 2. Contractual remedies, including, but not limited to, liquidated damages and termination of the contract.
  - C. Examine contractor's benefit programs covered by this chapter;
  - D. Impose other appropriate contractual and civil remedies and sanctions for violations of this chapter;
  - E. Allow for remedial action after a finding of non-compliance, as specified by rule.
- F. Perform such other duties as may be required by ordinance or which are necessary to implement the purposes of this chapter.

#### **20.45.050** Effective date.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any contract awarded on or after September 30, 2000.

Section 2. On October 1, 2001, the Department will present to the Council a status report on the implementation of these provisions. This status report will include options for expanding the provisions to cover additional City contracts, including but not limited to employee benefits, franchise, concessions, and contracts under the formal competitive bid threshold, and will specifically outline alternative program options and associated resource requirements.

Section 3. Consistent with the Copernicus project objectives of improving and streamlining our contracting processes while still pursuing important social and economic policies of the City, the Department will evaluate the provisions of the new "Boost" program, this "Non-Discrimination in Benefits" ordinance, and the "City Contracts—Prevention of Discrimination Ordinance (SMC Ch. 20.44) in order to recommend ways to harmonize the various rules, processes and legislation with each other and with existing rules, processes and legislation related to contracting.

Section 4. Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. However, if the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this ordinance in all other respects, and the offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances, shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten (10) days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

	Passed by the City Council the	day of	, 1999, and signed	by me in open
session	in authentication of its passage th	is day of	, 1999.	
	Pre	esident of the C	Sity Council	

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

Mayor

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## STATE OF WASHINGTON - KING COUNTY

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	Seattle, City	Clerk	—-SS.		
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## **Affidavit of Publication**

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

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was published on

12/20/99

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Notary Public for the State of Washington, residing in Seattle

### City of Seattle

ORDINANCE 119748

B. "Contract awarding authority" means the City officer, depertment, commission, employee, or board authorized to enter into or to administer contracts on behalf of the City Council the 22nd day of November. 1999, and signed by me in spon assainn in authorization of its passage this 22nd day of November, 1999.

E "Domestic Fartner" means any person sto is registered with higher employer as a domestic partner, or, in the absence of such simpleyer provided registry, is registered as a domestic partner with a governmental body pursuant to state or local taw authorizing such registration. Any internal employer registry of domestic partnership must comply with criteria for domestic partnerships assettled by rule by the Department.

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application of the requirements of this
chanter to such benefits may be preempted
by federal or state law

20.45 020 DESCRIMINATION IN THE

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AN ORDINANCE 18748

AN ORDINANCE seeking to contracts: seeking a new Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 20 45 requiring contractors on the Company of the Compan

Seatile are required to comply with the City's nondiscrimination laws, and WHEREAS, it is the City's intent through the contracting practices authorities in the equalize the total compensation fierein, to equalize the total compensation fletween similarly situated employees with domestic partners Now, therefore

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CHAPTER 20.45 CITY CONTRACTS—NON DISCRIMINATION IN BENEFITS

20.45.010 DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this chapter.

A "Contract" means a contract for public storks, consulting, or supplies, material, equipment or services as set forth in SMC.

Ch. 3.18.850 et seq., satimates to cont The ty Three Thousand Dollars \$33,000.00 or more in 1999, consistent with the competitive threshold requirements of, and as adjusted pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code as a set forth in SMC.

B. "Contract" neases a contract for public storks, consulting, or supplies, material, equipment or services as set forth in SMC.

A "Substant Section S. This ordinance shall take of the offending provision with respect to the offending provision and after its approval by the Mayor, but for the provision stated pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code and as adjusted pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code and as "Code a

City

\*C "Department" means the Executive
Services Department.

\*D "Director" means the Executive Services Department Director.

\*Page 1999.

\*PAUL SCHELL.