

Resolution No. 31154

A RESOLUTION urging Seattle voters to vote "approved" on Washington State Referendum 71 thereby retaining Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 which would expand the rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners to equal those of married spouses.

The City of Seattle – Legislative Department

Resolution sponsored by: Licatao

**Committee Action:**

Date	Recommendation	Vote
pass NL, JA, TR AS Amended (P)	9/23/09	(2H)

Related Legislation File: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Introduced and Referred: <u>8-3-09</u>	To: (committee): <u>Culture, Civil Rights, Health and Personnel</u>
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: <u>9-28-09</u>	Date Presented to Mayor: <u>9-29-09</u>
Date Signed by Mayor: <u>9-30-09</u>	Date Returned to City Clerk: <u>10-1-09</u>
Published by Title Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>2</u>	Date Returned Without Concurrence:
Published in Full Text _____	

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Council Action:**

Date	Decision	Vote
<u>9-28-09</u>	<u>Adopted 8-0</u>	<u>(Excused: McIver)</u>

*Law Department*

**RESOLUTION 31154**

1 A RESOLUTION urging Seattle voters to vote "approved" on Washington State Referendum 71  
2 thereby retaining Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 which would expand the  
3 rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners to equal those of married  
4 spouses.

5 WHEREAS, on May 18<sup>th</sup> Governor Christine Gregoire signed Engrossed Second Substitute  
6 Senate Bill 5688 into law providing that, for all purposes under state law, state registered  
7 domestic partners shall be treated the same as spouses; and

8 WHEREAS, opponents of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 filed Referendum 71 to  
9 send Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 to a vote of the citizens of  
10 Washington; and

11 WHEREAS, enough signatures have been gathered and the citizens of Washington will vote on  
12 Referendum 71 in Washington State's November 2009 general election; and

13 WHEREAS, a vote of "approved" on Referendum 71 will allow Engrossed Second Substitute  
14 Senate Bill 5688 to become law and provide that state registered domestic partners be  
15 treated the same as spouses under state law; and

16 WHEREAS, a vote of "rejected" on Referendum 71 would repeal Engrossed Second Substitute  
17 Senate Bill 5688 and allow state registered domestic partners to be treated differently  
18 than spouses under state law; and

19 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle embraces legal equality and fair treatment for all residents, and  
20 values the contributions and personal dignity of all; and

21 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle has legally protected its citizens from discrimination on the basis  
22 of sexual orientation since 1973, and on the basis of gender identity since 1999; and

23 WHEREAS, since 1993, the City of Seattle has provided its employees with health benefit  
24 coverage for city registered domestic partners; and

25 WHEREAS, since 1999, unmarried members of the City of Seattle Retirement City Employees'  
26 Retirement System can designate a domestic partner as his or her beneficiary; and

27 WHEREAS, since 2000, the City of Seattle has required contractors on City contracts to provide  
28 employee benefits to their employees with domestic partners equivalent to those provided  
to their employees with spouses; NOW, THEREFORE,



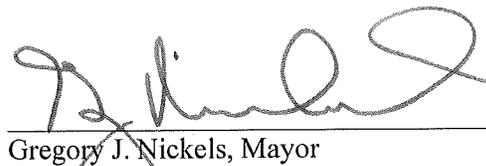
1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**  
2 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

3 Section 1. The City of Seattle urges Seattle voters to vote "approved" on Referendum 71  
4 on the November, 2009 ballot, thereby retaining Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688  
5 and expanding the rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners as equal to  
6 those of spouses.

7 Adopted by the City Council the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2009, and  
8 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
9 of September, 2009.

10   
11 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

12 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

13   
14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

16  
17 Filed by me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2009.

18  
19   
20 City Clerk

21 (Seal)



**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>DOF Analyst/Phone:</b>
Legislative	Lisa Herbold/4-5331	N/A

**Legislation Title:**

A RESOLUTION against Washington State Referendum 71, an attempt to repeal Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688's expansion of the rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners.

• **Summary of the Legislation:**

Opposes repeal of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688, including Referendum 71 and encourages citizens to vote "approved" on Referendum 71

• **Background:**

City of Seattle ordinances provide that a) City registered domestic partners be treated the same as spouses for the purposes health benefit coverage, b) City pension beneficiaries can be a domestic partner, and c) City contractors must provide employee benefits to their employees with domestic partners equivalent to those provided to their employees with spouses.

• *Please check one of the following:*

**X** **This legislation does not have any financial implications.**



RESOLUTION

31154

1 A RESOLUTION against Washington State Referendum 71, an attempt to repeal Engrossed Second  
2 Substitute Senate Bill 5688's expansion of the rights and responsibilities of state registered  
3 domestic partners.

4 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle embraces legal equality and fair treatment for all residents, and values the  
5 contributions and personal dignity of all; and

6 WHEREAS, since 1973, the City of Seattle has legally protected its citizens from discrimination on the  
7 basis of sexual orientation, and protected on the basis of gender identity since 1999; and

8 WHEREAS, since 1993 the City of Seattle provides its employees with health benefit coverage for city  
9 registered domestic partners; and

10 WHEREAS, since 1999 unmarried members of the City of Seattle Retirement City Employees'  
11 Retirement System can designate a domestic partner as his or her beneficiary; and

12 WHEREAS, since 2000 the City of Seattle has required contractors on City contracts to provide  
13 employee benefits to their employees with domestic partners equivalent to those provided to their  
14 employees with spouses; and

15 WHEREAS, on May 18<sup>th</sup> Governor Christine Gregoire signed Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill  
16 5688 into law providing that for all purposes under state law, state registered domestic partners  
17 shall be treated the same as spouses,

18 WHEREAS, opponents of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 filed Referendum 71 to send  
19 Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 to a vote of the citizens of Washington; and

20 WHEREAS, if enough signatures are gathered the citizens of Washington will vote on Referendum 71 in  
21 Washington State's November 2009 general election; and

22 WHEREAS, a vote on Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 will put vulnerable population's  
23 rights, including same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples where one is over the age of 62, to a  
24 popular vote; and

25 WHEREAS, if Referendum 71 is on Washington's November 2009 general election ballot an "approved"  
26 vote will allow Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 to become law and provide that  
27 state registered domestic partners be treated the same as spouses for the purposes of state law; and

28 WHEREAS, if Referendum 71 is on Washington's November 2009 general election ballot a "rejected"  
vote would repeal Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 and allow state registered  
domestic partners to be treated differently than spouses for the purposes of state law; NOW,  
THEREFORE,



**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR  
CONCURRING, THAT:**

Section 1. The City of Seattle opposes all attempts to repeal Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688, including Referendum 71.

Section 2. Citizens are encouraged to vote "approved" on Referendum 71 if it is certified to be placed on the November 2009 general election ballot.

Adopted by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

**THE MAYOR CONCURRING:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

(Seal)



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**STATE OF WASHINGTON – KING COUNTY**

--SS.

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245698  
CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

No.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

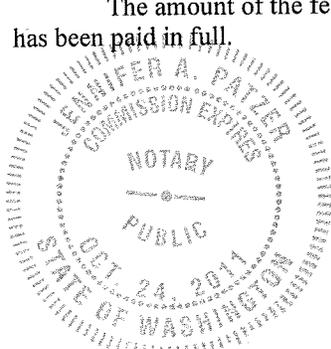
The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

CT:31154 TITLE ONLY

was published on

10/08/09

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$ 35.38, which amount has been paid in full.



Affidavit of Publication

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Subscribed and sworn to before me on

10/08/09

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Notary public for the State of Washington,  
residing in Seattle

## State of Washington, King County

### City of Seattle

#### TITLE-ONLY PUBLICATION

The full text of the following resolutions, passed by the City Council on September 28, 2009, and published here by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://clerk.ci.seattle.wa.us>. For further information, contact the Seattle City Clerk at 684-8344.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 31154

A RESOLUTION urging Seattle voters to vote "approved" on Washington State Referendum 71 thereby retaining Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 which would expand the rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners to equal those of married spouses.

Publication ordered by the City Clerk  
Date of publication in the Seattle Daily  
Journal of Commerce, October 8, 2009.  
10/8(246698)