

RESOLUTION No. 31356

A RESOLUTION reaffirming the City of Seattle's support for marriage equality in the State of Washington and urging the Washington State Legislature to pass Senate Bill 6239

1-23-12 Adopted 9-0

Introduced:	1-23-12	By:	
Referred:		To:	Full Council
Referred:		To:	
Reported:			
Passed:	1-23-12	Signed:	2-1-12
Filed:	2-1-12	Published:	TIME

US5171

Bruce A. Howell

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Godden

Richard Conlin

Law Department

RESOLUTION 31356

1
2 A RESOLUTION reaffirming the City of Seattle's support for marriage equality in the State of
3 Washington and urging the Washington State Legislature to pass Senate Bill 6239

4 WHEREAS the City of Seattle embraces legal equality and fair treatment for all residents,
5 including the freedom to marry; and

6 WHEREAS the City of Seattle has extended legal protections to protect its citizens from
7 discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation since 1973; and

8 WHEREAS in July 1994 the City of Seattle approved Ordinance 117244, which created a
9 Domestic Partner Registration program for unmarried couples in committed ongoing
10 relationships to document their relationships, which program has registered over 4,500
partnerships since its inception; and

11 WHEREAS in February 1997, the City of Seattle adopted Resolution 29535 opposing
12 discrimination against same sex couples in Washington State and supporting legal
recognition of civil marriages for same sex couples; and

13 WHEREAS, in April, 2009 the Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Second
14 Substitute Bill (ESSB) 5688, which Bill expanded the rights, responsibilities, and
15 obligations accorded to state-registered same-sex and senior domestic partners to be
16 equivalent to those of married spouses, while acknowledging that a domestic partnership
is not a marriage; and

17 WHEREAS the City of Seattle passed Resolution 31154 in October 2009, urging its residents to
18 again support and protect the expansion of the rights and responsibilities afforded those
19 individuals registered as domestic partners, by voting in favor of Referendum 71, which
20 sought to uphold ESSB 5688, resulting in 53% of Washington voters and 68% of King
County voters affirming these rights and responsibilities; and

21 WHEREAS, the 2012 Regular Session of the Washington State Legislature is considering the
22 adoption of Senate Bill 6239, introduced in January 2012, which Bill is explicitly
23 intended to end discrimination in marriage based on gender and sexual orientation, while
respecting the religious freedom of religious institutions to determine for whom to
perform marriage ceremonies; and

24 WHEREAS the residents of the City of Seattle overwhelmingly support the adoption of Laws
25 that seek to eliminate and correct bias and discrimination in all its forms, including those
26 Laws that do not provide marriage equality to all those that seek it;



1 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

4
5 Section 1. The City of Seattle urges the Washington State Legislature, in its 2012
6 Regular Session, to show its support for marriage equality through swift passage of Senate Bill
7 6239, which Bill is intended to end discrimination in marriage based on gender and sexual
8 orientation in the State of Washington, while also respecting the religious freedom of clergy and
9 religious institutions to determine for whom to perform marriage ceremonies and to determine
10 which marriages to recognize for religious purposes.

11 Section 2. The City of Seattle declares that if the Washington State Legislature is unable
12 to adopt Senate Bill 6239 prior to the end of its 2012 Regular Session, that it will continue to
13 adopt legislation that enhances and enlarges the rights of those individuals that rely on domestic
14 partnership in lieu of full marriage equality.



Michael Jenkins
Resolution supporting marriage equality
January 17, 2012
Version #1

1 Adopted by the City Council the 23rd day of January, 2012, and
2 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 28th day
3 of January, 2012.

4 

5 President _____ of the City Council

6
7 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

8 

9
10 Michael McGinn, Mayor

11
12 Filed by me this 1st day of February, 2012.

13 

14
15 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

16
17 (Seal)



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Michael Jenkins/5-1674	NA

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION reaffirming the City of Seattle's support for marriage equality in the State of Washington and urging the Washington State Legislature to pass Senate Bill 6239

Summary of the Legislation:

This resolution reaffirms the City of Seattle's support for marriage equality for its residents and all people who seek marriage within the State of Washington. The resolution calls on the Washington State Legislature to adopt Senate Bill 6239 in its 2012 regular session, which Bill supports marriage equality by extending the rights and responsibilities of marriage to same sex individuals. The resolution also reaffirms the City's support for marriage equality through additional actions if the legislation does not pass in this session.

Background:

Over 25 years the City has taken many steps to support the rights of same sex individuals. Since 1994 the City has consistently passed legislation that supported domestic partnership of committed and ongoing relationships of same sex individuals, in lieu of marriage equality, while working towards the goal of complete marriage equality.

Please check one of the following:

X This legislation does not have any financial implications.

(Please skip to "Other Implications" section at the end of the document and answer questions a-h. Earlier sections that are left blank should be deleted. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each question.)



STATE OF WASHINGTON – KING COUNTY

--SS.

280914
CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

No. 31356

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

CT: TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION

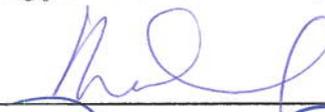
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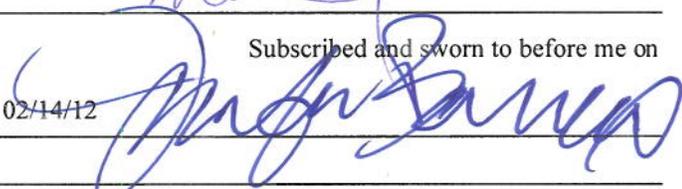
02/14/12

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$ 34.88, which amount has been paid in full.



Affidavit of Publication



Subscribed and sworn to before me on
02/14/12 

Notary public for the State of Washington,
residing in Seattle

State of Washington, King County

City of Seattle Title Only Resolution

The full text of the following legislation, passed by the City Council on January 23, 2012, and published below by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://clerk.seattle.gov>. For information on upcoming meetings of the Seattle City Council, please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/council/calendar>.

Contact: Office of the City Clerk at (206) 684-8344.

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Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, February 14, 2012.

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