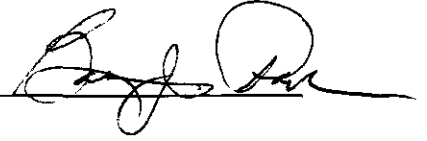


OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. **78016** C.M.S.

03 JUL 23 PM 2:23

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY WAN



A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 205, THE DOMESTIC PARTNER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ACT SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBERS GOLDBERG, KEHOE, KORETZ, LAIRD, LENO AND SENATOR KUEHL

WHEREAS, Oakland has by local policy and ordinance shown its commitment to fair and equitable treatment of all persons regardless of gender or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, there has long been community concern over the inability of all couples to enjoy the full benefits of legal marriage under existing state law; and

WHEREAS, California, including the City of Oakland in particular, is home to hundreds of thousands of families headed by same-sex couples, many with children; and

WHEREAS, these families deserve the same rights and legal protections as other families under the law, including the protection of their domestic partnership rights and privileges and protection of their children's economic interests by insuring their access to the resources of both parents; and

WHEREAS, expansion of domestic partnerships ensures state rights, protections, and responsibilities that are otherwise unavailable to gay and lesbian families; and

WHEREAS, no resident of our city should be refused equal protection under the law, and suffering the inability to access these legal protections results in significant harm to these families, including financial insecurity, lack of retirement and death benefits, and lack of access to family court for dissolutions; and

WHEREAS, discriminatory laws result, especially, in significant harm to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people by perpetuating homophobia, just as anti-miscegenation laws barring people of different races from marrying, legal in the United States until 1967, perpetuated racism and social ostracism; and

WHEREAS, discriminatory laws undermine the state of California's commitment to equality, privacy, and justice for all of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to publicly and legally commit to share one's life with a person of one's choice is for many people one of the most central aspects of human experience, and denial of these rights is a denial of fundamental civil rights; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council declares its support for AB 205 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Gray Davis to end discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people and their families by enacting Assembly Bill 205 which provides for equal access to many of the legal benefits and obligations now afforded to selected state sanctioned unions, and thereby provide these benefits and obligations to all state sanctioned unions, regardless of sex, gender identity, gender characteristics, gender expression, or sexual orientation; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the City Council directs the City Manager and the City's legislative lobbyist to advocate for the above position to the State Legislature.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, JUL 29 2003, 20

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES -- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, DE LA FUENTE, NADEL, QUAN, REID, WAN - 8

NOES- 0

ABSENT- 0

ABSTENTION- 0

ATTEST



CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
Of the City of Oakland, California