

Robert E. Shannon  
City Attorney of Long Beach  
333 West Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802-4664  
Telephone (562) 570-2200

RESOLUTION NO. RES-06-0123

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF MARRIAGE  
EQUALITY FOR SAME SEX COUPLES WITH FULL RIGHTS  
AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS ANY HETEROSEXUAL CIVIL  
MARRIAGE

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

WHEREAS, City of Long Beach is home to more than 80,000 LGBT residents  
and families headed by same sex couples, many with children; and

WHEREAS, both the United States Constitution and California Constitution  
clearly state no laws will be made or enforced that abridge the privileges and immunities  
of its citizens and residents; and

WHEREAS, both the United States Constitution and California Constitution  
clearly state that no person within its jurisdiction will be denied equal protection under their  
laws; and

WHEREAS, the right to marry is recognized under the United States  
Constitution as a fundamental liberty interest; and

WHEREAS, providing equal access to civil marriage will not require religious  
institutions to perform or recognize marriages that conflict with their particular religious  
traditions or beliefs; 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 the denial of marriage to same sex couples is a denial of fundamental civil  
rights; and

1           WHEREAS, denying civil marriage to individuals who are gay or lesbian  
2 deprives them of state and federal rights, privileges, immunities, protections and  
3 responsibilities; and

4           WHEREAS, families headed by gay or lesbians deserve the same rights and  
5 legal protections as other families under the law, including the protection of their spousal  
6 rights and privileges and protection of their children's economic interests by ensuring their  
7 access to the resource of both parents; and

8           WHEREAS, the inability to access these legal protections may result in  
9 significant harm to these individuals and families, including financial insecurity, deprivation  
10 of real property interests, lack of retirement and death benefits and lack of standing in  
11 access to family court for dissolution; and

12           WHEREAS, no resident of City of Long Beach should be refused equal  
13 protection under the law; and

14           WHEREAS, discriminatory laws undermine the State of California's  
15 commitment to equality, privacy, liberty and justice for all of its citizens, as well as  
16 undermining civil marriage itself.

17           NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as  
18 follows:

19           Section 1. The City of Long Beach hereby declares its support for civil  
20 marriage licenses and any enactments which codify civil marriage equality for all couples  
21 residing in California who are citizens or legal residents of the United States.

22           Sec. 2. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to our  
23 elected representatives in State and Federal government.

24           Sec. 3. The City of Long Beach requests the State and Federal government  
25 to act with vigor to develop laws to allow marriage equality for same sex couples and to  
26 defend same sex civil marriages and protect the fundamental liberties of all families.

27           Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the  
28 City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.


1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of October 17, 2006, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: B. Lowenthal, S. Lowenthal, DeLong, O'Donnell, Schipske, Richardson, Reyes Uranga, Gabelich, Lerch.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: None.

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

Robert E. Shannon  
City Attorney of Long Beach  
333 West Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802-4664  
Telephone (562) 570-2200