

WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

FAMILY EQUALITY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the cornerstone of a family is love, honor and commitment, between two adults and inclusive of any children under their parentage or guardianship; and

WHEREAS, there are many families across Hawai'i that are currently denied equal protection under the law based on gender; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve equal protection under the law regardless of the marital status of their parents; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i, there are rights, responsibilities, benefits, protections and privileges of marriage currently available exclusively to couples consisting of one man and one woman; and

WHEREAS, civil unions have been recognized nationally and internationally as a compromise measure that protects a definition of marriage as being solely between a man and a woman, while allowing family equality protection before the law for all couples, whether they are same or opposite sex; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid rights, responsibilities, benefits, protections and privileges granted under the marriage laws of the State are not provided equally to couples who are not married; and

WHEREAS, the Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9 supports the right of all its constituents to equal protection under the law; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9 goes on record to request community members, state legislators and the Governor support civil rights equality and enactment of civil unions legislation that will protect all families across Hawai'i, equally under the law, ending discrimination that exists today and thereby strengthening all our communities and the potential of each individual.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS VOTED ON AND SUPPORTED, 10-2-3, AT THE NOVEMBER 13, 2007 MEETING OF THE WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD.