

Resolve 5-14/15

Passage: 9-0 on 3/2/2015

MICHAEL F. BRENNAN (MAYOR)
KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)
DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)
EDWARD J. SUSLOVIC (3)
JUSTIN COSTA (4)

**CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL**

Effective 3/12/2015

DAVID H. BRENERMAN (5)
JILL C. DUSON (A/L)
JON HINCK (A/L)
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES, JR (A/L)

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
THE RIGHT OF SAME-SEX COUPLES TO MARRY**

WHEREAS, Maine same-sex couples have had the right to marry since 12:01 a.m. on December 29, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the right for same-sex couples to marry has now been granted in 37 states; and

WHEREAS, despite enjoying that right in those 37 states, same-sex married couples do not have the rights of a married couple when traveling or upon a move to states that have not granted this right; and

WHEREAS, same-sex married couples living or traveling in states that have not granted them the right to marry may deprive them of the right of married couples for tax equity, family and medical leave, insurance and retirement benefits; and

WHEREAS, same-sex married couples deserve treatment equal to different-sex married couples under the laws of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City Council passed Resolve 16-08/09 on April 27, 2009 supporting state legislation legalizing same-sex marriage; and

WHEREAS, although the City's voters cast ballots with more than 70 percent in opposition in the referendum to repeal that state law that had granted the right to same-sex marriage in 2009, the statewide vote overturned the state law; and

WHEREAS, three years later, the City Council passed Resolve 3-12/13 on October 15, 2012, supporting the Referendum Question 1, which statewide vote finally granted the right to same-sex marriage in Maine; and

WHEREAS, Mayors For the Freedom to Marry, Mayors in the United States Conference of Mayors, and Mayors of the Cities of Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco, among other municipalities, have signed in support of the attached Marriage Equality Amicus Brief submitted to the United State Supreme Court in support of equal treatment in the court's consideration of April DeBoer, et al., v. Richard Snyder, et al, a lawsuit concerning the rights of married same-sex couples in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Portland's Mayor and its City Councilors desire to proclaim continued support for the rights of same-sex couples to marry and to enjoy the same rights of married

couples everywhere in the United States by signing the Amicus Brief on behalf of Portland;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Portland City Council that the city affirms and commits to the support of this Friends of the Court or *Amicus Curiae* Brief and authorizes the Mayor to sign on its behalf.