

Introduced by the County Services Committee of the:

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT
MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN MICHIGAN**

RESOLUTION # 13 - 317

WHEREAS, Michigan voters in 2004 amended the state's Constitution to solely recognize the union of one man and one woman in marriage as the only agreement recognized as marriage or similar union for any purpose; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 297 of 2011 restricted the offering of domestic partner benefits to public employees; and

WHEREAS, the intention of this legislation and amendment represents nothing less than an unconscionable attack on the rights of Michigan's gay and lesbian citizens, by purposefully and disproportionately affecting the ability of individuals of a minority sexual orientation to access the rights and benefits conferred by marriage; and

WHEREAS, until Michigan Public Act 297 of 2011, Ingham County progressively offered some version of benefits to the same-sex partners of its employees; and

WHEREAS, public sentiment nationally reflected through public polls has grown increasingly in support of same-sex marriage; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in June 2013 struck down the federal Defense of Marriage Act and opened the door to same-sex marriage in California; and

WHEREAS, as of July 2013, thirteen states, the District of Columbia, and five Native American tribes have legalized same-sex marriage; and

WHEREAS, several pieces of legislation have been introduced in the Michigan legislature to allow same-sex marriage in Michigan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners calls on the legislature to enact HB 4742, a bill to repeal 2011 PA 297, the Public Employee Domestic Partner Benefits Restriction Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners calls on the legislature to pass SJR W, a bill to amend the Michigan Constitution by removing language prohibiting same-sex marriage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners calls on the legislature to enact SB 405, a bill to make changes to Michigan’s marriage laws to allow for same-sex marriage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners calls on the legislature to enact SB 406, a bill to recognize same-sex marriages that were licensed in other states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners calls on the legislature to enact other legislation supportive towards same-sex marriage, but still protects religious freedoms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall send copies of this resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, the Ingham County State Legislative Delegation, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

COUNTY SERVICES: Yeas: De Leon, Koenig, Celentino, Holman, Nolan, Tsernoglou
Nays: Maiville **Absent:** None **Approved 7/16/13**

The Resolution was moved by Commissioner De Leon and supported by Commissioner Bahar-Cook.

Yeas: Commissioners Anthony, Bahar-Cook, De Leon, Celentino, Holman, Hope, Koenig, McGrain, Nolan, Tennis and Tsernoglou

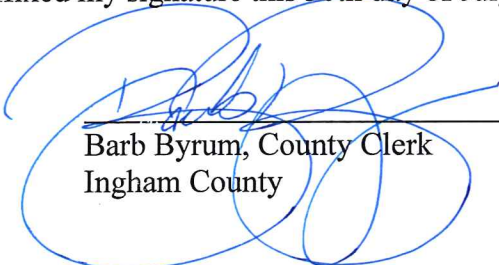
Nays: Commissioners Schafer and Maiville

Absent: Commissioner Vickers

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, Barb Byrum, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Ingham County, Michigan (the “County”) do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at a meeting held on July 23, 2013, the original of which is on file in my office. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 30th day of July, 2013.



Barb Byrum, County Clerk
Ingham County