

St. Louis City Ordinance 64401

FLOOR SUBSTITUTE

BOARD BILL NO. [98] 10

INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN PHYLLIS YOUNG , MIGUEL MITCHELL , APRIL FORD GRIFFIN , MARIT CLARK , MARTIE J. ABOUSSIE , MARGE VINING , MICHAEL MCMILLAN , SHARON TYUS , IRVING C. C LAY, JR. , GREGORY CARTER , LYDA KREWSON

An ordinance pertaining to the registration of domestic partnerships; permitting the register of the City of St. Louis to register qualified individuals who have established a domestic partnership; permitting said partnership registrations to be amended or terminated; creating certain rights for individuals who have registered as domestic partners; containing definitions and a penalty clause.

WHEREAS, significant cultural changes in our society have resulted in the creation of diverse living arrangements and the development of nontraditional family compositions or familial units. Individuals who are committed members of a nontraditional family duly deserve protection against discrimination; now therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. Domestic Partnership defined.

When used in this chapter, the term "domestic partnership" means two persons, both of whom are eighteen years of age or older, neither of whom is married or related by blood to the other in a manner that would bar marriage in the State of Missouri, who have a close and committed personal relationship, who live together and have been living together on a continuous basis, and who have registered as domestic partners and have not terminated the domestic partnership, in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION TWO. Domestic partnership registration.

Persons may register as domestic partners if they are residents of the City of St. Louis on the date of registration. In order to register, persons shall execute a domestic partnership registration certificate on a form provided by the city register and submit it to the city register who shall maintain a registry of domestic partnerships. No person shall be eligible to register as a domestic partner who at the time of registration or at any time during the prior six months was registered as a member of another domestic partnership. Domestic

partnerships registered in any city or county other than the City of St. Louis shall be valid within the City of St. Louis upon the filing of a certified copy of the registration with the city register.

SECTION THREE. Termination of domestic partnerships.

1. A domestic partnership shall terminate at the death of one of the partners or upon the filing of a termination statement with the city register. The domestic partner filing the termination statement shall declare that the domestic partnership is terminated and, if the termination statement has not been signed by both domestic partners, that the other domestic partner has been notified of such termination by registered mail, return receipt requested.

2. Any person registered as a domestic partner shall within 30 days of any change in that status give notice to any party who, in order to qualify for a benefit or right, was originally given a copy of the domestic partnership certificate.

SECTION FOUR. Filing fees.

The city registrar shall set reasonable filing fees for the filing of a registration, termination or amendment or obtaining additional copies of a domestic partnership certificate. Any fees for such filings currently in effect shall continue until and unless amended by rule by the city register.

SECTION FIVE. Rights of Registered Domestic Partners.

1. All health care facilities operating within the City of St. Louis shall allow the registered domestic partner of a patient to visit such patient unless no visitors are allowed or the patient expresses a desire that visitation by the domestic partner be restricted.

2. All jail facilities owned or operated by the City of St. Louis shall allow the registered domestic partner of an inmate to visit such inmate unless the authority in charge of said facility reasonable believes that such a visit is a threat to the security of the inmate or the inmate expresses a desire that visitation by the domestic partner be restricted.

SECTION SIX. It shall be a violation of this ordinance for any person to knowingly interfere with the registration of any qualified individual as a domestic partner or to limit or restrict in any manner any right of a domestic partner as provided in Section Five of this ordinance.

SECTION SEVEN. Any person convicted of a violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by a term of imprisonment of not more than 90 days or by a combination of both a fine and imprisonment.

SECTION EIGHT. Any written or oral agreement which purports to waive any provision of this ordinance is against public policy and void.

Legislative History				
1ST READING	REF TO COMM	COMMITTEE	COMM SUB	COMM AMEND
04/21/98	04/21/98	LEG		
2ND READING	FLOOR AMEND	FLOOR SUB	PERFECTN	PASSAGE
06/12/98			06/19/98	06/19/98
ORDINANCE	VETOED		VETO OVR	
64401				