

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Declaring Opposition to)
Ballot Measure No. 13 and Support for) RESOLUTION
Basic Civil Rights for All Citizens) 94-212

WHEREAS, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners supports civil rights for all the citizens of Multnomah County; and

WHEREAS, Multnomah County is interested in protecting the safety, security and well-being of all the citizens of Multnomah County; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure No. 13 has been examined by the courts for the purpose of identifying the Measure's primary effects; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Supreme Court has clearly stated that Ballot Measure No. 13 will prevent state and local governments in Oregon from barring discrimination against gays and lesbians (Mabon v. Kiesling, 317 Or 406 (1993)); and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure No. 13, if enacted, will deprive gay and lesbian citizens from civil rights protection extended to other citizens; and

WHEREAS, to singularly deny members of the Multnomah County gay and lesbian community protection against discrimination, while affording such protection to all other vulnerable groups of residents, in effect legalizes discrimination against gay and lesbian people, and is therefore in direct conflict with the Board of County Commissioners' responsibilities and commitment to ensure equal justice and basic civil rights for all of the residents of this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners declares its opposition to Ballot Measure No. 13, which, if enacted, will violate the right of free expression, require government to act as censor, impose ignorance on the subject of homosexuality, require legalized and permanent discrimination against gay and lesbian people, and violate the basic rights of residents for Multnomah County; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners will continue to support basic civil rights for all citizens.

ADOPTED THIS 3rd day of November, 1994.

REVIEWED:

LAURENCE KRESSEL, COUNTY COUNSEL
for MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 

Beverly Stein
Multnomah County Chair