

O-4.

May 13, 2002

WHEREAS: All citizens are equal and must be seen so in the eyes of the law; and

WHEREAS: Marriage, and the loving relationship which it signifies, is a basic human right and a personal decision made by individuals; and

WHEREAS: A sweeping, discriminatory constitutional amendment has been introduced to amend the Massachusetts constitution to deny basic rights to gay and lesbian citizens; and

WHEREAS: This constitutional amendment would prevent almost any legal recognition of same-sex couples, would threaten the health care benefits of same-sex couples and does not protect any marriage or any family; and

WHEREAS: The City Council opposes any attack on the principles of equality enshrined in the Massachusetts Constitution; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge Representatives Wolf and Barrios have led the opposition to this measure; and

WHEREAS: This proposal was reported adversely by the Joint Committee on Public Service of the state legislature by a 15-0 vote; and

WHEREAS: The economic well-being of all our citizens and families, including families formed by same-sex couples, should be protected; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging the State legislature to reject the proposed constitutional amendment, H.4840, that would deny protections and benefits to Cambridge families; and be it further

11-773

ORDER #4

Calling on the State Legislature to reject the proposed constitutional amendment H.4840 that would deny protections and benefits to Cambridge families.

Councillor Murphy

In City Council May 13, 2002

ORDER ADOPTED.