

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

SUPERVISOR BRENT FOX
INITIATED BY



JODI TIMMERMAN
DRAFTED BY

FINANCE COMMITTEE
SUBMITTED BY

JULY 8, 2015
DATE DRAFTED

**REPEALING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES
IN SAME SEX QUALIFYING DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS**

1 WHEREAS, the County of Rock extended healthcare benefits, prescription drug coverage,
2 dental insurance and other employee benefits to all same sex qualifying domestic partners of County
3 employees effective March 1, 2014;

4
5 WHEREAS, said benefits were extended to same sex qualifying domestic partners of County
6 employees as same sex marriage was not legally recognized in Wisconsin at that time;

7
8 WHEREAS, on September 4, 2014, following a decision from the United States Court of
9 Appeals for the 7th Circuit, same sex marriage became legal in the State of Wisconsin;

10
11 WHEREAS, on June 26, 2015, following a decision from the United States Supreme Court,
12 same sex marriage was legalized for the entire country;

13
14 WHEREAS, as a result of these court decisions, domestic partner healthcare coverage is no
15 longer needed to provide individuals in same sex relationships the same rights as those that exist for
16 individuals in heterosexual relationships;

17
18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County will no longer extend healthcare
19 benefits, prescription drug coverage, dental insurance, or other employee benefits to individuals in
20 same sex domestic partnerships. Those provisions set forth in Rock County Resolution No. 14-1B0498
21 are repealed.

22
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become effective 90 days after
24 adoption by County Board.

Respectfully submitted:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mary Mawhinney
Mary Mawhinney, Chair

Sandra Kraft
Sandra Kraft, Vice Chair

Mary Beaver

Brent Fox
Brent Fox

J. Russell Podzilni
J. Russell Podzilni


*Resolution adopted by
County Board of Supervisors
on October 8, 2015.*

15-10A-396

REPEALING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES IN SAME SEX QUALIFYING DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS


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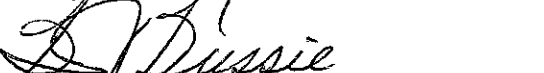
COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE



J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

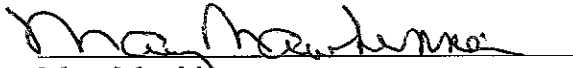

Sandra Kraft, Vice Chair

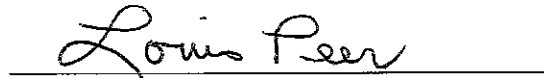

Eva Arnold


Henry Brill


Betty Jo Bussie


Alan Sweeney

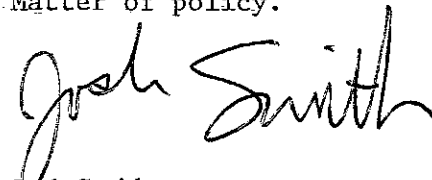

Mary Mawhinney


Louis Peer


Terry Thomas

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

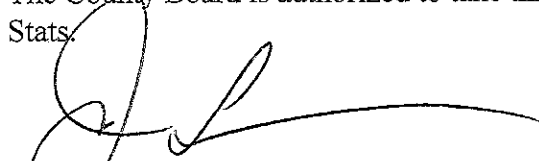
Matter of policy.



Josh Smith
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to sec. 59.01, 59.51 and 59.52(11), Wis. Stats.


Jodi Timmerman
Deputy Corporation Counsel

FISCAL NOTE:

No additional fiscal impact.


Sherry Oja
Finance Director

Executive Summary

With the September 4th, 2014 decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit, same sex marriage became legal in Wisconsin. On June 26th, 2015 the decision from the United States Supreme Court legalizing same sex marriages for the entire country sets the foundation to repeal providing health insurance benefits for domestic partners of employees of Rock County.

Previous to these court rulings, people in same sex domestic partnerships were not able to become legally married, therefore an employee of Rock County in a same sex domestic relationship was not eligible to provide health insurance benefits to their domestic partner.

As a result of these court rulings, individuals with same sex domestic partners can now legally marry and will be eligible to have access to the same health insurance benefit programs as all other qualifying married employees.

By approving this resolution, we will be taking measures to deny any requests to provide health insurance benefits to any domestic partners, same sex or heterosexual, of non-married employees of Rock County.