



**City of Missoula, Montana  
City Council Committee Agenda Item**

**Committee:** Public Safety, Health and Operations  
**Item:** Repeal Domestic Partnership Registry Resolution  
**Date:** September 28, 2022  
**Sponsor(s):** Gwen Jones  
**Prepared by:** City Clerk Staff  
**Ward(s) Affected:**  
 Ward 1                       Ward 4  
 Ward 2                       Ward 5  
 Ward 3                       Ward 6  
 All Wards                       N/A

**Action Required:**

Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council to repeal resolution number 7801 entitled “A resolution of the Missoula City Council expressing support for the Human Rights Campaign’s important work and authorizing the creation of a Domestic Partnership Registry”.

**Recommended Motion(s):**

I move the City Council: Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council to repeal resolution number 7801 entitled “A resolution of the Missoula City Council expressing support for the Human Rights Campaign’s important work and authorizing the creation of a Domestic Partnership Registry”.

**Timeline:**

Committee discussion: October 12, 2022  
Council action (or sets hearing): October 17, 2022  
Public Hearing (if required): [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)  
Final Consideration [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)  
Deadline: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**Background and Alternatives Explored:** In 2013, prior to the Supreme Court decision on same sex marriage, Council adopted a resolution creating a domestic partnership registry. Now that same sex partners can legally be married, the registry has evolved to a way for Montana residents (this program is available statewide) to declare their partnership and obtain a certificate they present to their employer to receive domestic partnership benefits.

The current process:

1. Couple takes a form to a notary and signs it.
2. They send it to the City Clerk’s office.
3. The City Clerk’s office adds them to a database and produce a certificate that is signed by the City Clerk, indicating they have been added to the registry and mail the certificate back to them.
4. The couple presents the certificate to the employer.

The City Clerk’s office would like to evolve this program from a registry to a form that is available on the City website. Couples will access the affidavit on the website, they fill it out and present it

to their employer for benefits and eliminate the need for the City Clerk's office to process a certificate. This will save time, effort and money for citizens and the City Clerk's office.

Historic data about the number of partnerships registered in the past two years:

Year	Registered partnerships
2021	22
2020	18

Resolution:

<https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/22909/Resolution-7801?bidId=>

**Financial Implications:**

**Links to external websites:**