

Amendment 45
Domestic Partnerships

1 **Ballot Title:** An amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the establishment
2 of domestic partnerships, and, in connection therewith, declaring that domestic
3 partnerships do not affect the institution of marriage between one man and one woman,
4 stating that notwithstanding any other provision of law a domestic partnership is
5 established as a unique and valid relationship between eligible adults of the same sex
6 and is not similar to marriage, and directing the general assembly to enact implementing
7 legislation consistent with the responsibilities, benefits, and protections and licensing
8 provisions for domestic partnerships set forth in House Bill 06-1344 as passed by the
9 Colorado general assembly.

10 **Text of Proposal:**

11 *Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:*

12 Article II of the Colorado Constitution is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW
13 SECTION to read:

14 **SECTION 33. Domestic partnerships.**

15 **(1) Legislative declaration.** THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO FIND THAT
16 DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS FURTHER IMPORTANT SOCIETAL GOALS AND DO NOT AFFECT
17 THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN.

18 **(2) Definitions.** "DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP" MEANS A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO
19 PERSONS WHO ARE EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, ARE OF THE SAME SEX, ARE NOT
20 PARTNERS IN ANOTHER DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP, ARE NOT MARRIED TO ANOTHER
21 PERSON, ARE NOT RELATED BY ADOPTION OR BY BLOOD, AND HAVE OBTAINED A LICENSE
22 AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

23 **(3) Establishment of domestic partnerships.** NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER
24 PROVISION OF LAW, A DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP IS ESTABLISHED AS A UNIQUE AND VALID
25 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ELIGIBLE ADULTS OF THE SAME SEX AND IS NOT SIMILAR TO
26 MARRIAGE.

27 **(4) Implementing legislation.** NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2007, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
28 SHALL ENACT LEGISLATION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, WHICH
29 LEGISLATION SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES, BENEFITS, AND
30 PROTECTIONS, AS WELL AS THE LICENSING PROVISIONS, SET FORTH IN HOUSE BILL
31 06-1344 AS PASSED BY THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH GENERAL
32 ASSEMBLY.