

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

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

SECTION 33. Domestic partnerships.

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

(2) **Definitions.** "DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP" MEANS A FORMALIZED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO ADULTS WHO ARE OF THE SAME GENDER AND THEREFORE EXCLUDED FROM THE MARRIAGE LAWS OF THIS STATE, ARE NOT PARTNERS IN ANOTHER DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP, ARE NOT MARRIED TO ANOTHER PERSON OF THE OPPOSITE GENDER, AND ARE NOT RELATED BY ADOPTION OR BY BLOOD.

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

(4) **Implementing legislation.** NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2007, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ENACT LEGISLATION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, WHICH LEGISLATION SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES, BENEFITS, AND PROTECTIONS SET FORTH IN HOUSE BILL 06-1344 AS PASSED BY THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND STATE SENATE DURING THE 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

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