



## **RESOLUTION REGARDING MARRIAGE AND THE LAW**

Whereas, as officers of the court and stewards of our system of justice, lawyers are charged with protecting and promoting the rights of our clients within the framework of the law;

Whereas, promoting and protecting the right of persons to have access to and rely upon the legal rights and obligations of civil marriage serves the administration of justice and the practice of law; and

Whereas, predictability and fairness in the laws that protect property rights, parental rights and access to the justice system are necessary if lawyers are to fulfill their duties to their clients and serve the interests of justice;

Whereas, achievement of those goals requires that all persons be treated equally regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Governors of the Washington State Bar Association resolves to support equal access for same-sex couples to civil marriage and its attendant legal rights and obligations.

*Working Together to Champion Justice*