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Domestic Partnership Benefits Fact Sheet

Please feel free to use these points or to emphasize your own. The points are in no particular order of importance. Don't try to use them all! Shorter is better when writing letters to decision-makers and newspapers. Pick one or two points and then add your own personal story. That's what works. Remember who you're trying to persuade.

- ✓ 270 of Fortune 500 companies offer DPB
- ✓ Equal compensation for equal work
- ✓ City employees in same-sex relationships are denied the right to marry in NC, so they can't access DPB through the city
- ✓ Improves recruitment and retention of quality employees
- ✓ DPB improve Asheville's reputation as a tourist destination for same-sex couples
- ✓ DPB strengthen families when people are healthy, secure, and respected
- ✓ To be competitive with private sector businesses, we need DPB
- ✓ Seven other governments in NC have already passed DPB:
 - Mecklenburg County
 - Durham County
 - City of Greensboro
 - Orange County
 - Town of Chapel Hill (passed in 1995)
 - Town of Carrboro (passed in 1995)
 - City of Durham
- ✓ Private companies that offer DPB include:
 - Grove Park Inn
 - Western North Carolina Community Health Services
 - Progress Energy
 - BB&T
 - Barnes & Noble
 - Home Depot
 - Lowe's
- ✓ The following groups endorse DPB as well as other equality measures:
 - American Academy of Family Physicians
 - American Psychological Association
 - National Association of Social Workers
 - American Medical Association
- ✓ By adopting DPB, Asheville will demonstrate a commitment to equality for LGBT citizens will add to Asheville's economic resilience and potential for growth
 - The cities with high-tech industries tend to have an open, diverse culture that attracts youth and innovation
 - Four US metro areas with the highest concentration of gay residents are all among the nation's top 15 high-tech areas: Washington DC, Atlanta, Austin, San Diego
- ✓ 95% of employers have a less-than 3% increase in total health care costs