

WHEREAS, corporations with non-discrimination policies relating to sexual orientation have a competitive advantage to recruit and retain employees from the widest talent pool;

Employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation diminishes employee morale and productivity;

The company has an interest in preventing discrimination and resolving complaints internally so as to avoid costly litigation and damage its reputation as an equal opportunity employer;

Minneapolis, Seattle and Los Angeles, and San Francisco have adopted legislation restricting business with companies that do not guaranteed equal treatment for lesbian and gay employees and similar legislation is pending in other jurisdictions;

The company has operations in and makes sales to institutions in states and cities which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation;

A recent National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce study has found that 16% -44% of gay men and lesbians in twenty cities nationwide experienced workplace harassment or discrimination based on their sexual orientation;

National public opinion polls consistently find more than three-quarters of the American people support equal rights in the workplace for gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals;

A number of Fortune 500 corporations have implemented non-discrimination policies encompassing the following principles:

- 1) Discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity will be prohibited in the company's employment policy statement.
- 2) The company's non-discrimination policy will be distributed to all employees.
- 3) There will be no discrimination based on any employee's actual or perceived health condition, status, or disability.
- 4) There will be no discrimination in the allocation of employee benefits on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- 5) Sexual orientation and gender identity issues will be included in corporate employee diversity and sensitivity programs.
- 6) There will be no discrimination in the recognition of employee groups based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- 7) Corporate advertising policy will avoid the use of negative stereotypes based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- 8) There will be no discrimination in corporate advertising and marketing policy based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

- 9) There will be no discrimination in the sale of goods and services based on sexual orientation or gender identity, and
- 10) There will be no policy barring on corporate charitable contributions to groups and organizations based on sexual orientation.

RESOLVED: The Shareholders request that management implement equal employment opportunity policies based on the aforementioned principles prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

STATEMENT: By implementing policies prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, the Company will ensure a respectful and supportive atmosphere for all employees and enhance its competitive edge by joining the growing ranks of companies guaranteeing equal opportunity for all employees.