

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize the City Attorney to appear as *Amicus Curiae* supporting gender equality on behalf of City of Portland. (Resolution

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

- To affirm authority of City Attorney to act on behalf of the City in joining amicus curiae briefs in a gender equality case currently pending before the Federal Circuit. In *Fulcher, et al., v. Secretary of Veterans Affairs*, the Court will decide whether the United States Constitution prohibits the Department of Veterans Affairs from denying coverage for gender-confirmation surgery for transgendered veterans. The City Attorney's office was recently contacted by attorneys from Lambda Legal offering the an opportunity to sign onto an important amicus brief. The brief is due on June 28, 2017. The brief will speak on behalf of cities and will focus on the importance of gender non-discrimination protections to a city's overall health and welfare.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

- There are no financial or budgetary impacts. The City Attorney's Office will spend a minimal amount of time reviewing the draft brief(s) and providing input. There are no out-of-pocket expenses for the City.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Because of the time-sensitive nature of this request, the opportunity to involve community directly in the Resolution drafting was not feasible. However, the City had extensive community involvement in developing its code and administrative rules related to gender equality (see Title 23, HRAR 2.04, and ADM 13.03) and this Resolution seeks to amplify that work.