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City of Miami to Recognize Domestic Partnerships of City Employees

--For the first time in City's History, Domestic Partners of City Employees will be eligible for Employment Benefits--

(Miami, FL)--- Miami's City Commission today unanimously approved legislation sponsored by Mayor Manny Diaz and District 2 Commissioner Marc D. Sarnoff that provides recognition of domestic partnerships for City employees.

The new ordinance allows any City employee with a domestic partner, gay or straight, to elect insurance coverage for his or her partner or the children of that partner in the same way a City employee may elect insurance coverage for their spouses and children.

"This is a perfect opportunity for the City to ensure that all employees are treated fairly. I am proud to say our Commission is doing the right thing," says Commissioner Sarnoff.

"Recognizing the importance and value of domestic partnerships promotes fairness in our City and ends the practice of denying benefits solely based on marital status," said Mayor Diaz. "This new measure will help ensure that the families of so many of our dedicated employees will have the insurance coverage they need and deserve."

To enroll in the program, employees must have their domestic partnership registered with Miami-Dade County. Strict penalties for fraud are included in the legislation.

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