

2019 RES-104

**RECOGNIZING JUNE 2019 AS THE FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY
OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN DANE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2014 U.S. Judge Barbara Crabb issued her ruling on the federal challenge to Wisconsin's ban on same-sex marriage stating that the state's constitutional amendment violates same-sex couples fundamental right to marry and their right to equal protection of laws under the 14th amendment to the US Constitution; and

WHEREAS, within minutes of Judge Crabb's ruling, the Dane County Clerk's office began issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples staying open late that Friday and opening again Saturday morning; and

WHEREAS, Dane County and City of Madison staff, County Judges and Court Commissioners, Fair Wisconsin and other volunteers and community groups contributed their time and effort to insure all interested same-sex couples were issued marriage licenses quickly and efficiently, including expanding hours on nights and weekends; and

WHEREAS, in the weekend following Judge Crabb's ruling, Dane County issued 138 licenses to same-sex couples; and

WHEREAS, June 2019 marks the five-year anniversary of the first same-sex marriage license issued in the State of Wisconsin and Dane County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board recognizes the significance of this anniversary and congratulates the brave couples who made history that week on their five year anniversary, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors thanks County Clerk McDonell for his organization, leadership, and dedication in issuing marriage licenses to same sex in the face of potential legal action against Clerks who issued same sex marriage licenses, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors celebrates with the thousands of same-sex couples who have married since Judge Crabb's ruling five years ago.