

Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association

RESOLUTION

PERMANENT PARTNERS IMMIGRATION ACT

2003

Whereas the Jewish scriptural tradition teaches that all human beings are created B'tzelem Elohim (in the image of God) and upholds the sanctity of family life;

Whereas the Reconstructionist movement has gone on record as encouraging gay and lesbian Jews to form stable, lasting relationships and families;

Whereas gay and lesbian American citizens are deprived of the right to obtain legal residence in the U.S. for their permanent partners who are not U.S. citizens;

Whereas this lack of rights has a direct impact on thousands of gay and lesbian families, including members of our association;

And whereas, the Permanent Partners Immigration Act (H.R. 832) currently before the U.S. House seeks to redress this situation;

Therefore, we resolve that the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association go on record in support of the Permanent Partners Immigration Act.

In implementing the content of this resolution, the RRA agrees to

- A) Forward copies of this statement, on RRA letterhead, to appropriate federal and state officials;
- B) Join the Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force as a supporting organization;
- C) Forward copies of this statement to our partner institutions and member communities in the Reconstructionist movement, urging the adoption of a similar stance in those settings as well; and
- D) Recommend that our members and their communities become educated on this issue, expressing an opinion to elected officials where appropriate.