WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran issued the following statement today in response to today’s Supreme Court’s ruling:

“The U.S. Conference of Mayors hails the Supreme Court’s decisions today in the DOMA and Proposition 8 cases. These historic decisions will dramatically improve the lives of same-sex couples in cities across the nation. It’s particularly gratifying for an organization such as ours, which has been in the forefront of efforts to provide full equality for gay and lesbian Americans since 1984.

“More recently, in 2009, the Conference unanimously approved a resolution stating that the organization ‘supports marriage equality for same-sex couples, and the recognition and extension of full equal rights to such unions, including family and medical leave, tax equity, and insurance and retirement benefits, and opposes the enshrinement of discrimination in the federal or state constitution.’ We could not be more pleased that principles of equality such as these have now been validated by the highest court in the land.”

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The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,295 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/usmayors, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/usmayors.