John Hancock Earns Top Marks in 2018 Corporate Equality Index Thursday, November 09, 2017 04:46:00 PM (GMT)

John Hancock Earns 100 percent on Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 16th Annual Scorecard on LGBTQ Workplace Equality

BOSTON, Nov. 9, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- John Hancock, a division of Manulife Financial Corporation, proudly announced that it received a perfect score of 100 percent on the 2018 Corporate Equality Index (CEI), a national benchmarking survey and report on corporate policies and practices related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) workplace equality, administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. John Hancock joins the ranks of 609 major U.S. businesses which also earned top marks this year.

Ellie Harrison, vice president, Human Resources, stated, "John Hancock is honored to be recognized among the companies receiving a perfect score for LGBTQ workplace equality for the fourth time. We are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that attracts and retains a top talent and reflects the customers and communities we serve."

The 2018 CEI rated 609 businesses in the report, which evaluates LGBTQ-related policies and practices including non-discrimination workplace protections, domestic partner benefits, transgender-inclusive health care benefits, competency programs and public engagement with the LGBTQ community. John Hancock's efforts in satisfying all of the CEI's criteria results in a 100 percent ranking and the designation as a Best Place to Work for LGBTQ Equality.

Some of the key activities that helped John Hancock achieve its Corporate Equality Index score are:

- the efforts of its PROUD (Professionals Reaching Out for Unity and Diversity) employee community to promote an inclusive workplace
- the company's commitment to offer the same benefits coverage to same sex and heterosexual couples
- the sponsorship of local organizations that aim to make a difference to the LGBTO community

For more information on the 2018 Corporate Equality Index, or to download a free copy of the report, visit www.hrc.org/cei.

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation is the educational arm of America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender and queer people. HRC envisions a world where LGBTQ people are embraced as full members of society at home, at work and in every community.

About John Hancock and Manulife

John Hancock is a division of Manulife Financial Corporation, a leading international financial services group that helps people achieve their dreams and aspirations by putting customers' needs first and providing the right advice and solutions. We operate primarily as John Hancock in the United States, and Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance and wealth and asset management solutions for individuals, groups and institutions. Assets under management and administration by Manulife and its subsidiaries were over \$1 trillion (US\$806 billion) as of September 30, 2017. Manulife Financial Corporation trades as MFC on the TSX, NYSE, and PSE, and under 945 on the SEHK. Manulife can be found at manulife.com.

One of the largest life insurers in the United States, John Hancock supports approximately 10 million Americans with a broad range of financial products, including <u>life insurance</u>, <u>annuities</u>, <u>investments</u>, <u>401(k)</u> <u>plans</u>, and <u>college savings plans</u>. We also offer advice through Signator, a network of independent financial advisors. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at <u>johnhancock.com</u>.

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SOURCE John Hancock

Contacts: Melissa Berczuk, (617) 663-4750, mberczuk@jhancock.com

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