



## State of Washington approves same sex marriage

An emotional Governor Chris Gregoire has signed legislation making Washington the seventh state to legalize marriage between same-sex couples, declaring it was time “to make history in this great state.”

Gregoire's voice broke as she described conversations with her two daughters, who told her that marriage equality was “the civil rights issue of their generation . . . Thank you to that younger generation and my two daughters.”

The governor presided at a ceremony in Olympia, joined by legislative leaders and the longtime same-sex partners of such lawmakers as Senator Ed Murray and Representatives Jamie Pedersen and Laurie Jinkins.

The law goes into effect on June 7, unless



opponents succeed in gathering 120,577 valid voter signatures to force a referendum in November. If so, marriage equality would be held up pending a decision by Washington voters.

Gregoire predicted that Washington, for the

second time, would vote to ratify a major piece of Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights Legislation. Washington voted in favor of Referendum in 2009, becoming the first state to ratify an “everything but marriage” domestic partner law.

“Washington will say yes

because a family is a family,” Gregoire declared. “It is time to give our loving Gay and Lesbian couples a chance to have a married life in the State of Washington.

Gregoire told of receiving a letter from a 16-year-old girl who had just come to grips with her sexual orientation. In the future, said the governor, the young woman will “not have to get on bended knee and ask, “Will you civil union me’?” Kids in schools will not have to have their parents seen as “somewhat different than other loving parents,” Gregoire added.

“I’m proud that our same-sex couples will no longer be treated as separate but equal,” the governor said.

Opponents show no sign  
*See Marriage, Page 2, Col. 2*

We will custom design a cleaning service to meet your individual needs and send the same team of 2 to clean each time.

Cleaning Services Bill  
and June Deegan  
**Ultra Maid**  
4240 Airport Road, Suite 123,  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226  
(513) 731-0007 www.ultra-maid.com jde49@aol.com  
*Custom maid service; Free phone estimates. Guaranteed,*

*This Space available!*  
*Join our Advertising Family.*  
**513-241-7539**



**1 Tax** Quality Tax Preparation  
IRS Representation  
Tax Planning

**Scott Renno, EA**  
3284 North Bend Road, Ste. 106  
Cincinnati, OH 45239  
**513-481-1TAX (1829)**  
Cel: 513-417-2893  
Fax: 513-481-6444  
scott@1taxcincinnati.com



**Rainbow Cincinnati**  
**GayCincinnati.com**

**Marriage**—from Page 1 of slackening their opposition.  
“We are going to exercise our right to referendum and reject this law,” declared the website of the Family Policy Institute of Washington.

There was coast-to-coast action on marriage equality as Gregoire signed Washington's bill into law. The New Jersey State Senate voted 24-16 to legalize same-sex marriage in the Garden State. State Assembly approval is expected. But Republican Governor Chris Christie says he will veto the legislation.

Ex-Senator Rick Santorum, a scathing critic of marriage equality, was to meet in Olympia with opponents of the bill.

The Republican presidential candidate held a rally with supporters at the Washington State History Museum in

**Nancy Pelosi supports Freedom to Marry Plank in 2012 Dem Platform**

There is a push by Freedom to Marry to include a Marriage Equality Plank in the 2012 Democratic Party platform, using the following: support the full inclusion of all families in the life of our nation, with equal respect, responsibilities, and protections under the law, including the freedom to marry.

Government has no business putting barriers in the path of people seeking to care for their family members, particularly in challenging economic times. We support the Respect for Marriage Act and the overturning of the federal so-called Defense of Marriage Act and oppose discriminatory constitutional amendments and other attempts to deny the freedom to marry to

See *Pelosi*, Page 3, Col. 1



**Best Friend**  
PET SALON

**25 % off any new client grooming or bath service.**  
**Please call to schedule an appointment.**

2940 Hebron Park Drive  
Suite 102  
Hebron, KY 41048  
859-586-5100  
www.yourbestfriendpetalon.com

*Pelosi*—from Page 2

loving and committed same-sex couples.”

Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi is on board, **Metro Weekly** reports:

Pelosi spokesman Drew Hammill tells **Metro Weekly**, “Leader Pelosi supports this language. said Freedom to Marry founder and President Evan Wolfson: “Freedom to Marry is proud to have Leader Pelosi joining our call to put the Democratic Party squarely on record in support of the freedom to marry as part of the national platform. A strong majority of Democrats and Independents support the freedom to marry and standing up for all families is not just the right thing to do morally, it’s also right to do politically. I hope more people will quickly join Leader Pelosi by signing Freedom to Marry’s Democrats: Say I Do petition so together we can get the party, and the

country, where the majority of Americans already are.”

**Bingo raises funds Scholarship Fund**

Sunday, February 26, Gay Bingo will raise funds for the PFLAG Scholarship Fund. For this event, at the Cabaret doors open at 6 and games begin at 7.

Theme is Mardi Gras Party. \$10.00 for eight games. Donations of prize items (\$25 *minimum value, please*) are welcome. Bring the prize to the event.

The 2012 PFLAG Cincinnati scholarship application deadline is April 20.

Check their website for details and application forms. Scholarship amounts for 2012 have not been decided yet.

As usual PFLAG meets at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 Wm. Howard Taft, at 7 p.m. for social with the meeting at 7:30.

**Volunteer at Your GLBT Center Tuesdays with Toby Martino**

<http://www.cincyglbt.com/volunteers>



**PFLAG Cincinnati**



Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays  
7:00 - 9:30 p.m. at  
Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church  
<http://www.pflagcinci.org/>  
[info@pflagcinci.org](mailto:info@pflagcinci.org)  
(513) 721-7900



GLBT News



**Lynne and Kent Lefebvre**

Lynne, “We have a mixed marriage, he is Lutheran and I am atheist. The Gathering is the answer to our spiritual needs. Come join us.

[www.thegatheringcincinnati.org/](http://www.thegatheringcincinnati.org/)  
A United Church of Christ Congregation  
1431 Main St - Over the Rhine

