



Rep. Steve Simon

### God wants Gays?

Representative Steve Simon (DFL Hopkins/St. Louis Park) says a proposed Minnesota constitutional amendment is largely about religion. He says if sexual orientation is innate as science is showing us, and not a lifestyle choice, then God created Gay people. He asks, "How many Gay people must God create before we accept that he wants them around?"

Outfront

### Out Film Festival June 4 at Carnegie

The "Out Film Festival", a project of Media Bridges, will be held at The Carnegie: Visual and Performing Arts Center on June 4.

With the help of the Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement and their sponsors, the "Out Film Festival" will be the first of its kind in the State of Kentucky and will be a day to celebrate queer cinema.

Tickets for Out Film Festival are now available via The Carnegie's website.

### Prevent Cuts to Ohio HIV/AIDS Services

Equality Ohio is working together with Ohio AIDS Coalition to send this action alert: Governor Kasich's proposed budget for core HIV/AIDS services was \$5.5 million—barely enough to keep the program going, and provide essential medical services to people with HIV/AIDS.

A new plan put forward by the Ohio House of Representatives Finance Committee will cut those

services even further - an additional \$200,000 per year for the next two fiscal years.

Because of cuts over the last year, Ohio already has a waiting list of people living with HIV/AIDS who urgently need access to basic care and treatment for HIV. Further cuts put more lives — our friends, neighbors, family members, ourselves — at risk. More cuts, on top of those people with HIV/AIDS in Ohio have already suffered, would be unthinkable.

Our state representatives need to hear from you.

Call your state representative and tell them to restore the full \$5.5 million that Governor Kasich requested for line 440-444 of the 2011-2012 budget.

People with HIV/AIDS are counting on you. Your voice truly can make a difference.



### Video the problem, not McDonalds

We heard several comments about our story last week of the Transgender woman who was attacked in a McDonalds.

The story was not about McDonalds. The incident just happened to occur in a McDonalds.

Our story indicated that McDonalds' officials and

the local owner did the right things. The owner fired the employe who videoed the attack and put it on line.

The problem—individuals thinking more about videoing something like that so they can place it on line instead of caring about what is happening. Rodehaver

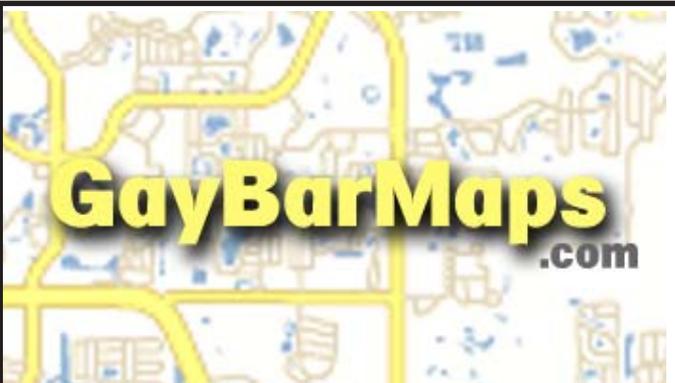
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## Sign up to help Equality Ohio

As you know, these are tough times for non-profit organizations and that includes Equality Ohio (EO). That's why, this May, EO is trying a little something new to raise money for their work.

They've joined a group of progressive organizations to jointly compete in an online fundraising opportunity called "Pepsi Refresh Everything".

While they ordinarily steer clear of contests like this, Pepsi is giving away some serious money and they think they have a great shot at winning.

In fact, this strategy

helped win more than \$1,600,000 for 35 groups so far and now Equality Ohio is joining the effort to do the same thing in May.

That's where they need your help.

Rather than asking you to donate money, They're asking that you to sign-up to be a daily voter (<http://www.theprogressiveslate.com/may/signup.php?name=equalityohio>) for Equality Ohio in May.

As a daily voter, you'll receive a short e.mail each morning in the month of May with a link where you can go and cast five votes each day for all the organizations on the Progressive Slate (*that's what they're calling all of their groups working together*).

They will know by the end of the month whether they won or not.

Working with the other organizations on the slate, they're hoping to build a group of several thousand daily voters—can you sign up now to help them win?

This money will make a big difference for their work this year.

Please join Equality Ohio and their progressive partners for this opportunity to make an impact in all their communities.

See *Equality*, Page 3, Col. 1

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The other groups on the slate include organizations that are working to fight human trafficking, promote sustainability and green jobs, help students get jobs at progressive non-profits, train community organizers and improve access to quality healthcare for young people.

cancel its contract with the House of Representatives to defend the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act has sparked a lively debate in the nation’s law schools and on legal blogs.

Stanford Law School Professor Deborah L. Rhode wrote this week in the **National Law Journal** that the law firm was “right to withdraw” from the case because of its concerns, but others, including U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr., have sharply criticized the move.

And, the National Rifle Association and the Commonwealth of Virginia have both dropped the large Atlanta-based firm from their roster of law firms, with both citing the DOMA decision.



**Anti-DOMA law firm has lost clients**

For the Atlanta law firm that dropped the contract to defend the federal marriage statute (*DOMA*) under pressure from Gay groups, the legal and public relations fallout shows no signs of easing.

King & Spalding has lost at least two high-profile clients, while its decision to

**Thanks Lisa Blankenship**

By **Worley Rodehaver**  
Editor

I want to thank Lisa Blankenship, a member of my church, for putting up with me while she helped setting up our new website.

Both the **GLBT News** Print Edition and the

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