

Monday Marriage Message from Freedom to Marry
Issue #2 | April 9, 2007

To view the online HTML version of the Monday Marriage Message, click here -

<http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/eupdate/mmm2.html>

Contents:

- 1) The Message
- 2) The Report
- 3) The Resource
- 4) The Number
- 5) The Map
- 6) The Spotlight: New Hampshire
- 7) The News

~~~~~

1) The Message

~~~~~

As Americans from coast to coast rush to meet the upcoming April 17th deadline to file their 2006 tax returns, same-sex couples and their families - as well as their employers and tax preparers - will have to overcome obstacles placed in front of them by the government.

*When it comes to taxes, same-sex committed couples will always pay more, but get less because of discrimination in marriage. Married couples can file taxes jointly and be taxed at a lower level, but same-sex couples cannot because they are excluded from marriage; same-sex couples also lose out on the ability to collect each other's Social Security, receive automatic inheritance rights, or transfer property without being taxed because of the exclusion from marriage.

Next week...Why Marriage Matters the Day Before Tax Day

LINK:

*Freedom to Marry's Tax Time Webpage:
<http://www.freedomtomarry.org/node.asp?id=3725>

~~~~~

2) The Report

~~~~~

The Effect of Marriage Equality and Domestic Partnership on Business and the Economy
(The Williams Institute)
October 9, 2006

LINK:

*The Report:
<http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute//publications/MarriageEqualityontheEconomy.pdf>

~~~~~

3) The Resource

~~~~~  
For Richer, For Poorer: The Freedom to Marry as a Matter of Economic Justice
To order this and other print materials, contact Kiyana Horton at
kiyana@freedomtomarry.org

LINK:
*The Resource: http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/pdfs/for_richer_for_poorer.pdf

~~~~~  
4) The Number

~~~~~  
65% of American voters support legal recognition of same-sex couples' relationships.

LINK:
*The Number:
http://third-way.com/data/product/file/78/Third_Way_Gay_Insights_Memo.pdf

~~~~~  
5) The Map

~~~~~  
State Prohibitions on Marriage for Same-Sex Couples

LINK:
*HRC:
<http://hrc.org/Template.cfm?Section=Center&CONTENTID=28225&TEMPLATE=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm>

~~~~~  
6) The Spotlight: New Hampshire

~~~~~  
New Hampshire Freedom to Marry Coalition

Last Wednesday, the New Hampshire House of Representatives voted to create civil unions and a Marriage Equality Commission. Both bills passed with solid bipartisan majorities. State Representative Mo Baxley, the executive director of NHFTMC, said, "With both of these bills passing the House at the same time, the message was civil unions are the first step toward marriage equality." A Senate hearing is scheduled for tomorrow, April 10th, to discuss these bills, and Baxley said she expects both will pass the Senate. Visit New Hampshire Freedom to Marry Coalition's website to see how the hearing turns out, or get involved and email the New Hampshire Senate today!

LINK:
*New Hampshire Freedom to Marry Coalition: <http://www.nhftm.org/>
*Mail to: nhsenate@nhftm.org

~~~~~  
7) The News

~~~~~

National

Giant Tax Headaches for Same-Sex Couples

Marketwatch; February 9, 2007

Marketwatch breaks down the tax filing headaches for same-sex couples resulting from their exclusion from the freedom to marry.

OPINION: Have Faith in Marriage

The News and Tribune; April 4, 2007

An Indiana columnist discusses how different-sex couples' marriages will not be threatened by ending the exclusion from the freedom to marry for same-sex couples.

Regional

Maryland Same-Sex Couples Anxious for Court Ruling

Washington Blade; April 6, 2007

Marylanders are awaiting the state's high court decision, expected any time now, on a marriage case that could redefine their lives.

New Hampshire House Passes Civil Unions

Concord Monitor; April 5, 2007

In what lawmakers called a victory for fairness and equality, the House voted by a nearly 2-to-1 margin...to endorse creating civil unions for same-sex couples.

LINKS:

*Giant Tax Headaches for Same-Sex Couples:

<http://articles.moneycentral.msn.com/Taxes/PreparationTips/GiantTaxHeadachesForGayCouples.aspx>

*OPINION: Have Faith in Marriage:

http://www.news-tribune.net/opinion/local_story_094171708.html?keyword=secondarystory

*Maryland Same-Sex Couples Anxious for Court Ruling:

<http://www.washblade.com/2007/4-6/news/localnews/10325.cfm>

*New Hampshire House Passes Civil Unions:

<http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070405/REPOSITORY/704050342>

~~~~~

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST:

~~~~~

The Must Sees

Evan wolfson debates David Blankenhorn of the Institute for American Values on CSPAN.

Visit "LIVE from the White House," Family Pride's overnight blogging session where they acquired 75 tickets for LGBTQ families to participate in today's White House Egg Roll.

LINKS:

*You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBy7xRRzd1Q>

*Family Pride: <http://www.familypride.org/blog/>

~~~~~

The Opposition



