Anti-Gay Rights Bill In Congress

by Dan Daniel

Washington, DC

Rep. Larry McDonald (D-GA), with the backing of the Christian Voice lobby, has introduced a bill concurrently in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate which is intended to convey "the sense of Congress...that homosexual acts and the class of individuals who advocate such conduct shall never receive special consideration or a protected status unless called for by...a constitutional convention." House Concurrent Resolution 166 was introduced in the House July 24, and has been referred to the Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional and Civil Rights, which is chaired by Don Edward (D-CA), a supporter of Gay rights issues and a co-sponsor of HR 2074 (the Waxman-Weiss Bill), the federal Lesbian and Gay civil rights measure. HR 2074 has 46 co-sponsors to date. McDonald's bill has been associated with such right-wing organizations as the John Birch Society, introduced his resolution at the urging of Christians Voice, a newly-formed lobby with a membership of more than 100,000 persons (including 1,500 ministers) across the country. Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), said, "The real importance of this legislation lies not in its chance of passage but in creating the 'climate' for a march on basic civil rights for this nation's Lesbians and Gay men. I am sure that 'Christian Voice' will use this legislation to mobilize anti-Gay and anti-Lebian sentiment around the country and stop the progress of our civil rights struggle." Elected representatives in the Congress, like elected officials anywhere, are especially responsive to large amounts of mail which they receive. It is anticipated that, with McDonald's bill to rally around, the membership of the Christian Voice lobby and their friends and supporters will flood the offices of senators and representatives with mail supporting HCR 166 and opposing HR 2074. Essentially, McDonald's measure would give employers the right to fire or refuse to hire a person if he or she were homosexual.

Gary Jarmin, spokesperson for Christian Voice, said that employers must have the right to fire a homosexual because continued employment of such a person might hurt business. "Suppose you hired someone and he didn't take a bath for a week and let his hair grow long--just generally became so unkempt that your customers complained," Jarmin explained. "You'd fire him because he was hurting your business. "Now, suppose that your customers find out you have a homosexual working for you and say they won't come into your shop anymore unless you get rid of him (our emphasis). You have to be able to fire him, too." Anti-Gay amendments to pending legislation have been proposed in the past. One such amendment was proposed by McDonald last year to be added--to the Legal Services Corporation Act. HCR 166, however, is the first anti-Gay measure to come before the Congress as anything but an amendment to existing or pending legislation and, according to Endean, it "appears to be far more dangerous to the progress of the lesbian and Gay civil rights movement. If this legislation is approved, it will put the Congress of the United States on record as supporting discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men. In a statement issued by Christian Voice, Dr. Robert Grant said, "This is the beginning of a national campaign to oppose the National Gay Rights Bill (HCR 2074). Should this bill pass, Christian businessmen and school principals would be subjected to stiff penalties for refusing to hire people whose sexual conduct they find morally offensive." Grant further said that Christian Voice does not want McDonald's bill to be seen as "a campaign of hate and persecution" against Lesbians and Gay men.

Jarmin told a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle that he and Christian Voice are opposed to discrimination against black and minority employees because they have no control over the color of their...Continued on Page 5

Why We Will Be Marching

During the weekend of October 12 to 14 thousands of Lesbians and Gay men will converge on Washington, DC to march for our rights and lobby legislators for passage of House Resolution 2074, the Waxman-Weiss federal Lesbian and Gay civil rights measure, and for the defeat of House Concurrent Resolution 166, the McDonald measure that seeks to assure the denial of civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men (See story this issue).

"Christian Voice," a new Christian lobby group which claims 100,000 members, has been setting the 'climate' for a march of one million of their members and supporters for April, 1980 to demonstrate against the rights of Lesbians and Gay men.


There has been no case for a Constitutional Convention by the Right (and indeed by our own Governor Brown), for the addition of an amendment establishing a federal spending limit.

It has been widely feared, however, that a Constitutional Convention at this time would open the door for the consideration of an anti-abortion amendment and, in the present climate, it is not outside the realm of possibility that an anti-Gay amendment would be proposed.

Rising inflation and continuing recession brings further call for repressive laws and actions by the people of the Right. Even some Black individuals and groups have been speaking out against rights for Lesbians and Gay men, claiming we are sick and are not a true minority, perhaps fearing that whatever progress they have achieved to this point in history would be in danger if legislative bodies began eliminating the rights of the most economically expendable groups.

And they would be correct. The rise in activity of the Ku Klux Klan (most recently in our own East Bay), American and European Nazis and the Popular Front of Great Britain (who now seek to rid the British Isles of "colored people" who are no longer advantageous to the labor force) are all indications that those in power and who have privilege will seek to hold onto that privilege, the civil rights of individuals be damned.

The movement for Gay civil rights has made tremendous strides in the last ten years and it is imperative to reaffirm these gains.

Now, more than ever, we as Lesbians and Gay men must assert ourselves and take this opportunity to establish ourselves in the consciousness of America and the world as a group that crosses every class, religious and national barrier and demand the protection of the law against the infringement of our civil rights based on our sexual preference. -THE SCLGA NEWS COLLECTIVE
Ride The Freedom Train With Robin

Robin Tyler, nationally known bisexual comedian.

Robin Tyler, founder of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), will be riding the Freedom Train to the national March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Robin will be speaking at the March and the accompanying Gay Rights National Lobby. Robin will speak about the March and the Gay Rights National Lobby.

The Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) is a non-profit organization that works to advance the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in the United States. GRNL is committed to the principles of equality, justice, and respect for all people, and advocates for the full inclusion of all sexual orientations in society. GRNL is led by Executive Director Steve Endean, who is a gay rights activist and a former member of the San Francisco Police Department.

The Freedom Train will make stops in Atlanta, Charlotte, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., and will be accompanied by the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL). The Freedom Train will arrive in Washington, D.C., on October 14, 1994, and will leave on October 15, 1994.

The Freedom Train will feature a variety of events, including concerts, speeches, and workshops, and will provide a platform for the GRNL to reach out to a broader audience. The Freedom Train will also serve as a symbol of the growing momentum for gay rights and the need for continued activism.

The Freedom Train will be a powerful expression of the ongoing struggle for gay rights, and will be an important event in the history of gay rights activism. The Freedom Train will be a testament to the power of collective action, and will serve as a model for future events and campaigns.

The Freedom Train will be a major event in the national March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and will be an important step in the ongoing struggle for gay rights. The Freedom Train will be a symbol of hope and progress, and will be a source of inspiration for all those who are working to create a more just and equitable society.
Anti-Gay Rights Bill Introduced

Continued from Page 1

San Jose Follows Suit

The San Jose City Council voted 5 to 1 to adopt a Gay rights ordinance much more stringent than the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors four-weeks ago. The ordinance they passed is designed to protect the rights of the county's Gay community from discrimination and harassment by landlords and employers. The ordinance prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing and employment.

Lesbian Health Resource Book

Just as the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors introduced a motion to adopt a non-discrimination ordinance on June 26, so, on 2, an ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the area.

"There are no accidents," boasted one of 1,000 fundamental- ists gathered to present an ordinance, "and the earthquake is God's hand telling us it's time to adopt this ordinance." "Pray the Lord," boasted the councilman, "pray for the earthquake, and the earthquake will come." In the eyes of many of the attendees, God is working and the earthquake is coming.

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New York City

Gay Task Force Protests Film ing

by Charles F. Bradburn and Lucia Valentino

On Wednesday night, the Gay Task Force in New York City's Park Slope announced that it would try to stop the showing of the film, "Trout Punters" by the Uniroyal Corporation.

The Gay Task Force has been coordinating a series of protests against the film, which is scheduled to be shown on June 20 at the Uniroyal Corporation's headquarters in New York City. The protesters are concerned about the film's depiction of gay characters and want it removed from the Uniroyal's collection.

"We're trying to get UNtral to take this film off the shelf," said a member of the Gay Task Force. "We're not going to let Uniroyal promote a film that we believe is offensive and harmful.

The protesters plan to picket the Uniroyal headquarters on June 20 and demand that the film be removed from circulation. They believe that Uniroyal is profiting from the film and that it should take responsibility for the content.

The Gay Task Force is part of a larger movement of gay rights advocates who are fighting against discrimination and prejudice. They believe that the film is part of a larger trend of media representation that is harming the gay community.

"Uniroyal is part of a larger network of companies that are profiting from the exploitation of the gay community," said another member of the Gay Task Force. "We're not going to let them get away with it.

The Gay Task Force is calling on other gay rights organizations around the country to join their efforts. They believe that this is a crucial moment in the fight for gay rights and that everyone must come together to make a difference.

Stay tuned for updates on the Gay Task Force's protests against "Trout Punters."
**U. S. Immigration Yields To Gays**

San Francisco

The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) announced August 13 that it will no longer attempt to exclude foreigners from this country on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Although the new policy directive was described as an "emergency" measure, it will probably mark the end of harassment of foreign visitors suspected by INS of being gay.

The new policy was announced by INS Commissioner Leonel Castillo as a direct response to a June 13 decision by an Italian court which stopped at San Francisco International Airport on two separate occasions this summer.

The first of these challenges, brought by British citizens Carl Hill and William H. Mariner, was an indirect appeal to the U.S. as persons "afflicted with psychological disorder." The second, involving two Mexican citizens, was a direct appeal to the U.S. as persons "afflicted with psychopathic personality disorder." The INS has, in a previous psychiatric examination, found the former to be a "borderline" case, and the latter to be an "insane under custody.

The decision to appeal to the U.S. as persons "afflicted with psychological disorder" was prompted by the U.S. Justice Department's refusal to hear the case at the second appeal.

In 1953, Congress provided that "psychopathic personality disorder" be defined as a "person suffering from a sexual or other undesirable psychological condition or condition of mind that afflicts a person so as to impair his ability to meet the demands of society in any environment.

Unfortunately, there are still many people who are not aware of this law and are not aware that it is the law. This law is the law of the United States and it is the law of the land.

**Congress Members Speak Out Against Gay Immigration Ban**

Washington, D.C.

Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) executive director, Ms. Gillian McCann, said that the bill "represents a threat to the security of the country" and "is an attempt to create a climate of fear and hatred."

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**Little Girls Still Sugar And Spice**

Philadelphia

Top commercials for little girls are sugar and spice, but the message for little boys is designed to make them into men, according to a research study.

Writing in the summer issue of the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Communications, researcher Susan R. Welch of the University of Kansas reported that advertisers used "homonative and exaggerated" sexually stereotyped messages to sell toys to children.

Three test cases which have been suggested include a newsletter, a conference, and a coordinated publication at the Annual Meeting of the INS on Washington. Any other comments or suggestions are welcome.

People wishing to become part of the network, or adding additional information, are asked to contact the INS/Surveillance Team. The INS/Surveillance Team can be reached at 202/224-3030. More information is available at the INS/Surveillance Team website.

More subtle, but still pervasive and performative, was the use of gay and lesbian themes in advertising.

**Flaunting It In Georgia**

Atlanta, Ga.

For the third consecutive year, a Gay pride banner has been hung in the middle of the town square to celebrate the 120th anniversary of the town.

The banner reading "Gay Pride Week is on the Road" hung in the middle of a small town square where the gay pride parade passed.

**Military Drag**

During World War I, the record shows, 330 French soldiers disguised themselves as women to avoid serving in the army.

The Draught of Shelter was founded in 1976 by a group of women who joined the Lesbian and Gay male movement.

**Bounty For Khomenei Set By Italian Gays**

Tens, Italy

The Federation of Revolutionary Homosexuals (FOH) has offered a reward of 100,000 Italian liras for the capture of Ayatollah Khomeini.

**FBI Decides To But Out**

Washington, D.C.

Stating his belief that "conduct, not personal belief" should be screened, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director William H. Webster announced July 27 that the FBI has terminated its practice of screening for the private lives of employees.

"We're trying to get rid of people's private lives," Webster said, "they have to put their personal lives in a compartmentalized way, and we're doing our best not to allow that."
Why Congress Is A Man's Domain

The following commentary titled, "Why a vote for a woman is a vote for America," was written for the New York Times by a member of the Congressional Advisory Council, the co-chair of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Rights, and the editor of the New York Times, by the late former New York Times publisher, Mr. Adolph Ochs. It is reprinted in full below.

"Why a vote for a woman is a vote for America" by Adolph Ochs

"Why a vote for a woman is a vote for America" is a commentary written by Adolph Ochs, the co-chair of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Rights and the editor of the New York Times. It was first published in the New York Times on September 18, 1970. The commentary argues that women should be represented in Congress and highlights the importance of women's voices in the political process.

The commentary begins by discussing the lack of female representation in Congress and the gender imbalance in the political system. Ochs argues that women should have the same opportunities as men to participate in politics and that their voices are necessary to ensure a more equitable and just society.

The commentary also discusses the benefits of having women in Congress, including their ability to address the unique needs and concerns of women and their families. Ochs notes that women are often more focused on issues such as maternal and child healthcare, education, and equal pay, and that these issues are often neglected in the political discourse.

Ochs also argues that women bring a different perspective to politics, one that is often more realistic and grounded in everyday life. He notes that women are often more effective at listening and understanding the needs of their constituents, and that they are less likely to be influenced by special interest groups.

The commentary concludes by encouraging readers to vote for women in the upcoming election, and by emphasizing the importance of a diverse and inclusive political system.
Gay Skate Rolling

Gay Skate, the evenings of roller skating which have been growing steadily in popularity since they were instigated in March, are continuing twice monthly.

This month, the evenings are September 10 and 24. October’s first Gay Skate will be October 8.

The evenings are always the second and fourth Mondays of the month, from 8 to 10 PM, at Cal-Skate, 6100 Commerce Blvd., Rohnert Park. Admission and skate rental is $1.50. For further information call 526-6077.

Gay Youth Speak Out

San Francisco

A monthly newsletter by and for Gay youth has begun publication in the Bay Area.

Gay Youth Community News, published by the Gay Youth Community Coalition (GYCC), will contain articles written by Lesbian and Gay youth, as well as legal and health-related information and listings of resources for Gay and Lesbian youth in the Bay Area. It will be heavily distributed in the Bay Area and mailed to over 150 individuals and groups around the country.

Spokespersons for GYCC said the newsletter was begun "to help meet our needs to communicate with each other about issues and events pertinent to our lives. It will also serve us in building a strong Gay Youth movement throughout the United States."

Written material is solicited from young Lesbians and Gay men. Subscriptions are available at the rate of $5 per year.

Subscriptions, submissions, and inquiries should be sent to Gay Youth Community Coalition, 3759 17th St., San Francisco 94114. Subscribers should make checks payable to Sandy Thompson and John Nieto.

Gay Business Ass’n. Forms

The concept of a Gay business association in Sonoma County is being presented to interested business and professional persons.

No specific structure has been established as of this time but with the Gay movement in this county on the upswing, the time may be right for the Gay business community to work together.

For further information contact John Darragh at 795-3975. Please leave a message with your name and best time to return your call.

Women And Work

A multi-faceted conference co-sponsored by the SRJC Women’s Re-Entry Program and the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women, Working Women, Inc, and other community agencies that specialize in vocational counseling, training and placement, will be held on Saturday, September 8 and Saturday October 6, from 9 AM to 4 PM at Santa Rosa Junior College.

There is a registration fee of $5.00 for each conference. Both conferences are designed primarily for women, but are open to everyone regardless of age or background.

Part One of the conference will focus on individuals attitudes about themselves in relation to the world of work. There will be speakers, panel presentations, workshops and small group discussions. The conference is for individuals who are experiencing difficulties or questions in their explorations of employment alternatives.

Identifying skills and talents will be primary emphasis of the day.

Part Two of the conference will focus on alternatives. Participants will be offered an opportunity to meet with personnel staff from various agencies and business in the county. Interview skills and techniques will be offered. For those interested in technical skills, workshops will be included to acquaint a person with training programs in major fields...workshops and discussion groups will feature "blue-collar" work, questions relating to math and test anxiety will be explored, as well as "reality situations: how to manage child care and an education and/or career.

Advance registration at the SRJC’s Women’s Center until September 7 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Attendance is limited.

For further information call 527-2161 or 527-4375.