



September 28, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 102 – Veto Request

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

Campaign for Children and Families, a leading California organization dedicated to protecting children, marriage, and the family as a whole, urges you to veto AB 102 (Ma).

This bill publicly creates the appearance of “same-sex marriage” by allowing homosexual couples to hold themselves out as married. AB 102 gives unmarried couples *married* last names.

To encourage same-sex couples to publicly present themselves as “Mr. and Mr. Jones” or “Mrs. and Mrs. Smith” dishonors the distinction of marriage between a man and a woman. As long as California defines marriage as a special institution between a husband and wife, the State of California should not promote the appearance of “same-sex marriages” through AB 102. Marriage law and married names go together.

It is not a good reason to change state law at the behest of a small group of activists who are already eligible to marry as a husband and wife. Existing law already allows surname changes, and courts routinely grant these legal requests, making this bill unnecessary.

Marriage between a man and a woman is the foundation of family, and family is the strength of our society. This is why good government must promote that which strengthens the family unit, and work to discourage whatever weakens the family unit. This bill weakens the distinction of marriage in California. Please strengthen, not weaken, the institution of marriage between a man and a woman. Please veto AB 102.

Sincerely,

Randy Thomasson
President
Campaign for Children and Families