

ACHIEVING EQUITY FOR DOMESTIC PARTNERS

Goals - Timetables - Strategies

A. Our Success in the Future Depends on:

1. Recognizing the History and Source of Discrimination;
2. Understanding and Mastering Methods for Reform;
3. Making a Collective Commitment to Create Change

B. A Suggested 6-Point Program to Achieve DP Equity:

1. Identifying the Problem Areas

- * Legal Status of Our Relationships
- * Employee Benefits Discrimination
- * Rights of Survivors
- * Tax Discrimination
- * Access to and Use of the Legal System
- * Discrimination Against Consumers

2. Exploring Solutions from Various Perspectives

- * Legal * Economic * Educational
- * Social * Religious * Political

3. Petitioning Appropriate Agencies for Relief

- * Government * Political Parties * Unions
- * Churches * Family * Others

4. Developing Timetables

- * Short Term: target now Intermediate: reach goal within
5-15 years
- * Long Range: continuing need to work indefinitely

5. Securing Constituency Commitment

6. Developing Coalitions to Implement Proposals

Administrative Information

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C. SPECIFIC GOALS OF DOMESTIC PARTNER EQUITY MOVEMENT:

1. Employee Benefits

- * Short Term: - Sick Leave and Bereavement Leave
- * Intermediate: - Reform Unemployment and Relocation Benefit Schemes
- * Long Range: - Adopt Cafeteria Style Benefits Plans
- Secure Health Benefits for Dependents

2. Recognizing the Validity of Our Relationships

- * Short Term: - Revise "Family Life Education Curricula" in Secondary Schools
- * Intermediate: - Reform Sodomy Laws in 25 States
- Adopt Anti-Discrimination Laws
- * Long Range: - Adopt Domestic Partnership Laws
- Reform "Family" Immigration Laws
- Eliminate Bias in Child Custody

3. Achieving Tax Reform

- * Short Term: - Auto Transfer Tax Reform
- * Intermediate: - Expand the "Head of Household" Definition for Income Tax Purposes
- * Long Range: - Allow Joint Income Tax Returns

4. Securing Rights for Survivors

- * Intermediate: - Amend Wrongful Death Statute
- * Long Range: - Pension Benefits to Survivor

5. Expand Right to Use Legal System for Redress

- * Short Term: - Allow "Consortium" and "Emotional Distress" Lawsuits
- * Intermediate: - Allow Use of Conciliation Court
- * Long Range: - Allow Dissolution Suits in Family Court

6. End Discrimination Against Couple-Consumers

- * Intermediate: - Include Domestic Partners in Spousal and Family Discounts
- * Long Range: - End Insurance Discrimination

SPECIFIC GOALS OF DOMESTIC PARTNER EQUITY MOVEMENT:

Long Range

- * Short Term: - Sick leave and bereavement leave
- * Intermediate: - Reform Unemployment and Relocation Benefit Schemes
- * Long Range: - Adopt California Style Benefit Plans - Secure Work Benefits for Dependents

Reexamining the Validity of Our Relationships

- * Short Term: - Revise "Family Life Education Curriculum" in Secondary Schools
- * Intermediate: - Reform Sodomy Laws in 22 States - Adopt Anti-Discrimination Laws
- * Long Range: - Adopt Domestic Partnership Laws - Reform "Family" Immigration Laws - Eliminate Bias in Child Custody

Achieving Tax Reform

- * Short Term: - Auto Transfer Tax Reform
- * Intermediate: - Expand the "Head of Household" Definition for Income Tax Purposes
- * Long Range: - Allow Joint Income Tax Returns

Securing Rights for Survivors

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- * Long Range: - Pension Benefits to Survivor

Expand Right to Use Legal System for Redress

- * Short Term: - Allow "Constitution" and "Practical Distress" lawsuits
- * Intermediate: - Allow Use of Conciliation Court
- * Long Range: - Allow Discretion Suits in Family Court

End Discrimination Against Couple-Constructs

- * Intermediate: - Include Domestic Partners in Spousal and Family Discounts
- * Long Range: - End Insurance Discrimination