



Domestic Partnerships Debated in Puerto Rico

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The Permanent Joint Committee for the Revision of the Civil Code in Puerto Rico held hearings on April 11 on changes to the Book of Family that would permit domestic partnerships. **Pedro Julio Serrano, president of Puerto Rico for All and a staffer at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**, openly kissed his partner, Steven Toledo, before testifying and called the change "a step in the right direction," but "a second class status" for gay and lesbian couples because it does not allow for marriage. His cousin, a co-chair of the committee, was reported by the San Juan Star to believe that the island "is not ready to legislate in favor of domestic partnerships between same-sex couples."