

# Austin American- Statesman

## Recruiting gays for government jobs

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A coalition of groups representing gays, bisexuals and transgendered folks is looking to put more of its own in top government positions.

The Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute today launched its Presidential Appointments Project, billed as a “nonpartisan effort designed to help grow the pool of openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender professionals who would be qualified and ready to accept politically appointed positions in the next U.S. presidential administration.”

Says Chuck Wolfe, the institute’s CEO, “Our goal is to make sure all Americans have an equal voice in their government. ... In 1996, we worked closely with the second Clinton administration to identify gays and lesbians who were qualified to serve the president. We stand ready to help whoever is elected this November.”

The organization says it will “identify, recruit and vet” potential applicants for thousands of government jobs.

Step one, according to GLLI, is to “decide if you have what it takes.” Things to consider about government work: “The hours are long and the pace intense.” “There is much public/press scrutiny.” And the FBI is going to check you out.

Step two, “complete the application.”

Groups involved in the effort include the Human Rights Campaign, the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force** and Stonewall Democrats.