National Gay and Lesbian
Task Force
Action Fund

The 2008 Presidential Candidates' Positions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 2008 Presidential Candidates Positions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

KEY: ✓Yes ✘ No ? Unclear/ Unknown	DEMOCRATS		REPUBLICANS		
	Hillary Clinton	Barack Obama	Mike Huckabee	John McCain	Ron Paul
Supports transgender-inclusive ENDA	✓	✓	✘	✘	✘
Supports HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment	✓	✓	?	✘	?
Supports lifting military ban	✓	✓	✘	✘	✘
Supports transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws	✓	✓	✘	✘	✘
Supports civil unions/DP	✓	✓	✘	✘	?
Supports same-sex marriage	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘
Supports same-sex adoption	✓	✓	?	?	✘
Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment	✓	✓	✘	✓	✓

*Supports sexual orientation inclusion, unclear about gender identity/transgender inclusion.

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METHOLODOGY:

The information contained within these fact sheets and chart was retrieved from a variety of news sources, the candidates' official Web sites and campaign materials and the candidates' voting records. News sources ranged from CNN interviews to statements in the *New York Times* and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) press. When possible, the most recent statements a candidate made on an issue are used—the majority of sources cited are from the past year.

The stances listed on a candidate's Web site, combined with their record of voting on, or co-sponsoring legislation and their public record statements led to one of three options on every issue: Supports, Opposes or Unclear/Unknown. The following explains the criterion for support of each LGBT issue:

Supports transgender-inclusive ENDA

- Candidate supports including sexual orientation and gender identity in the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (if candidate supports only sexual orientation inclusion, this is indicated)

Supports HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- Candidate supports funding for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment through funding initiatives such as the Ryan White Act and the Early Treatment for HIV Act

Supports lifting military ban

- Candidate supports doing away with "Don't Ask/Don't Tell"

Supports transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws

- Candidate supports including sexual orientation and gender identity in hate crime legislation, especially Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2005 (if candidate supports only sexual orientation inclusion, this is indicated)

Supports civil unions/domestic partnerships

- Candidate supports same-sex civil unions and/or domestic partnerships

Supports same-sex marriage

- Candidate supports same-sex marriage

Supports same-sex adoption

- Candidate supports same-sex couples adopting children

Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment

- Candidate opposes the Federal Marriage Amendment, which defines marriage as between a man and a woman only

Hillary Clinton on LGBT Issues:

Official Campaign Web site: http://www.hillaryclinton.com

Campaign Highlights/Points of Tension

- "No community has been made more invisible than the LGBT community by this administration, and I want to change that…I am committed to the fair and equal treatment of LGBT Americans."[1]
- Clinton responded to a question about the high incidence of depression and suicide among gay youth: "It's such a serious problem and I've done a lot of work on this in New York because I'm well aware of the depression and anxiety and frankly the high rate of suicide comparatively among gay teens. First number one, we've got to do everything we can to send a clear message that we value you. We value you as a person, you as a total person. And we want you to feel accepted and respected in your community. And you'll certainly have a president who feels that way. There need to be more services. Sometimes it's difficult in school and there's not a lot of understanding or sensitivity. We've got to do more to help prepare school officials and frankly your peers in school. Just because somebody doesn't understand doesn't mean that they should be a bully. They need to really be taught and guided to be more accepting and that is something that I feel very strongly about. There's even a school in New York that I have supported that is just for gay teens because it is very difficult in many areas for people to find any acceptance whatsoever. We need more health services. We need more mentoring and assistance so that you don't feel so alone."[2]
- On February 27, Senator Hillary Clinton sat down for a conference call with reporters from LGBT media outlets in the critical, upcoming primary states of Texas and Ohio.[3, 4]

Supports sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive ENDA

- "Hillary has been an original cosponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would finally end employment discrimination against gays, lesbians, and transgender individuals." [5]
- Supports. "Wholeheartedly" supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act[6].
- Co-sponsored 2002 ENDA.[7]
- 2005-2006 year: Voted in support of ENDA in 109th session.[8]

Supports HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- Supports: "She sponsored legislation to increase America's commitment to fighting the global HIV/AIDS crisis"[9]
- Introduced Early Treatment for HIV Act of 2005, supported the act in 2003.[10] [11] [12]

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[1] Resnick, Eric. "Clinton sticks with civil unions after N.J. report." *Gay People's Chronicle*. February 29, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.gaypeopleschronicle.com/stories08/february/0229081.htm.
[2] "Hillary Clinton Addresses Suicide Among Gay Teens In New Web Video". *Hillary for President*. January 25, 2008. Retrieved January 31, 2008 from: http://www.hillaryclinton.com/news/release/view/?id=5514
[3] Ralls, Steve. "Primary Questions." *The Bilerico Project.* February 28, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.bilerico.com/2008/02/primary_questions.php.
[4] Resnick, Eric. "The Story Behind the Reporting." *The Bilerico Project*. March 3, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.bilerico.com/2008/03/the_story_behind_the_reporting.php.
[5] "Fighting for the LGBT community." (2007). Hillary for president. Retrieved June 1, 2007 from: http://www.sovo.com/2007/5-25/Clinton.pdf
[6] Keen, Lisa. "War is top issue for gays." *Bay Windows*. February 22, 2007. Retrieved May 14, 2007 from: http://baywindows.com/ME2/Audiences/dirmod.asp?sid=008EC9FBCFF24AD18614290016BE1303&nm=Current+Issue&type=Publishing&mod=Publications%3A%3AArticle&mid=8F3A7027421841978F18BE895F87F791&AudID=0813BC739F2044E5A03DCF2DE3FDF7C9&tier=4&id=E996261EB6A049799CCE0EB85F5D1004
[7] "S. 1284 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d107:SN01284:@@@P
[8] "S. 1705 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN01705:@@@P
[9] "About Hillary: United States Senator." Hillary Clinton's Official Campaign Web site, Retrieved May 14, 2007: http://www.hillaryclinton.com/about/senator/
[10] "S. 874 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN00847:@@@P
[11] "Smith introduces HIV treatment bill." Gordon Smith, U.S. Senator. February 8, 2005. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith/press/2004/02-08-05.htm

- Unclear: Clinton was the sole vote against the Ryan White Act reauthorization bill that passed the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in May 2006.[13]

Supports lifting military ban

- Supports:[14] Calls Don't Ask/Don't Tell "failed" [15] Has supported repeal since 1999, says it is "shameful" and they should be allowed to "come out of the shadows". [16]
- "Gays and lesbians already serve with distinction in our nation's armed forces and should not face discrimination. Fitness to serve should be based on an individual's conduct, not their sexual orientation:[17]
- "(Don't ask/don't tell) was a transition policy and it was an effort to try to deal with the reality that -- probably since the very beginning of our nation we've had gays serving in our military with distinction and honor on behalf of our country, as we do today. And yet I have watched how "don't ask/don't tell" has been implemented. And I've concluded that it is not the best way for us as a nation to proceed. It has been in many instances implemented in a discriminatory manner. You know, after the first Gulf War there was a big flood of discharges of gays and lesbians because they let them serve and then after they finished the war, then they discharged them. In this particular time period, we've had Arabic linguists discharged under "don't ask/don't tell" when we are unfortunately so short of having people who speak the very language that our men and women in uniform have to understand in the streets of Baghdad. So I believe we could change the policy to let gays and lesbians serve in the military and be covered by the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So just like those who are not gays and lesbians, if there were conduct problems, then the conduct problems we looked at. But people would not be judged on who they are. And I just want to end by saying Barry Goldwater once said you don't have to be straight to shoot straight. And I think he was right. And I believe we should open up our military... "Don't ask/don't tell" was the compromise policy." [18]

Supports sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws

- Supports: Co-sponsor of Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, "also known as the hate crimes bill, which strengthens the federal government's ability to investigate and prosecute hate crimes." [19]
- "She will strengthen law enforcement and prosecution against discriminatory acts of violence against gays, lesbians, and transgender individuals by signing the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act into law."[20]
- On the memorials for Lawrence King: "I was deeply saddened by the recent death of 15-year-old Lawrence King who was killed at his school in Oxnard, CA. No one should face intimidation or violence, particularly at school, because of their sexual orientation or the way they express their gender identity. We must finally enact a federal hate crimes law to ensure that gay, lesbian and transgender Americans are protected against violent, bias-motivated crimes. We must send a unified message that hate-based crime will not be tolerated."[21]

Supports civil unions/domestic partnerships

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[12] "S. 311 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:SN00311:@@@P

[13] Birnbaum, Jeffery H. "Sen. Clinton delays AIDS law's renewal, citing cut in N.Y. funds." *Washington Post*, p. A01. August 23, 2006. Retrieved May 14, 2007 from: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/22/AR2006082201161.html

[14] "'08 race could feature pro-gay moderates" *Southern Voice.* November 24, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.southernvoice.com/2006/11-24/news/national/contest.cfm

[15] "Sen. Hilary Clinton at Human Rights Campaign board meeting." HRC Media. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9F_DcgAySDI

[16] Horowitz, Jason. "What's pink, green? Senator Clinton hauling gay cash." *The New York Observer*. March 18, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.observer.com/node/36944
"All in the family: Hillary Rodham Clinton supports Defense of Marriage Act." *The Advocate*. February 15, 2000. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1589/is_2000_Feb_15/ai_59410444

[17] Nagourney, Adam. "First lady criticizes policy of 'don't ask, don't tell.'" *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.* December 9, 1999. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qn4196/is_19991209/ai_n10556803

[18] "New Hampshire Democratic presidential candidates debate transcript." *CNN.* June 3, 2007. Retrieved June 4, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0706/03/se.01.html

[19] "Senator Clinton co-sponsors hate crime legislation." Senator Clinton's Official Senate Web site. April 12, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://clinton.senate.gov/news/statements/details.cfm?id=272319

[20] "Fighting for the LGBT community." (2007). Hillary for president. Retrieved June 1, 2007 from: http://www.sovo.com/2007/5-25/Clinton.pdf

[21] "Statement from Hillary Clinton: On The Memorials for Lawrence King". Press Release. February 22, 2008.

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- "Senator Clinton supports full equality for people in committed relationships, including health insurance, life insurance and pensions, and hospital visitation and believes we have to keep working to reach those goals," said Jennifer Hanley, a spokeswoman for Mrs. Clinton.[22]
- "I believe in full equality of benefits, nothing left out. From my perspective there is a greater likelihood of us getting to that point in civil unions or domestic partnerships and that is my very considered assessment."[23]
- Co-sponsoring legislation, she tells HRC.[24]
- Supports: "I support civil unions. I think that this is a matter that historically has been left to the states because that's where decisions like these are made. But I have been on record supporting civil unions and equality in relationships." [25]
- "Hillary will work to ensure that all Americans in committed relationships have equal benefits-from health insurance and life insurance, property rights and more." [26]
- Did not co-sponsor Uniting Americans Families Act (giving partnership rights to bi-national couples)[27]

Opposes same-sex marriage

- Opposes: "Marriage has got historic, religious, and moral content that goes back to the beginning of time, and I think a marriage is as a marriage has always been: between a man and a woman" date unknown, pre-2000. [28]
- A DOMA supporter, however, at an October 2006 meeting with the NYC LGBT community, "Mrs. Clinton admitted to publicly supporting the federal Defense of Marriage Act as a strategic decision to help derail a constitutional amendment that banned gay marriage."[29]
- Clinton says she would repeal only Section 3 of DOMA. That section of the law denies gay partners and spouses more than 1,100 federal benefits enjoyed by married heterosexual spouses. She would retain Section 2, which says states don't have to recognize same-sex "relationships between persons of the same sex."[30]

Supports same-sex adoption

- Supports: "We're going to make sure that nothing stands in the way of loving couples, gay or straight, who want to adopt children."[31]

Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment

- Opposes: Voted against it, July '04[32] and June '06.[33]

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[22] Healy, Patrick. "Clinton's remark on ruling irks gay rights advocates." *New York Times.* July 8, 2006. Retrieved May 14, 2007 from: http://www.nytimes.com/2006/07/08/nyregion/08hillary.html?ex=1172638800&en=17559a3b3f52fee1&ei=5070

[23] Schindler, Paul. "Absorbing gay pain and praise, Clinton says she's evolved." *Gay City News.* October 26, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.gaycitynews.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17379741&BRD=2729&PAG=461&dept_id=568864&rfi=6

[24] "Sen. Hilary Clinton at Human Rights Campaign board meeting." HRC Media. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9F_DcqAySDI

[25] Keen, Lisa. "Three are emerging as the top gay presidential candidates." *Gay People's Chronicle.* February 16, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.gaypeopleschronicle.com/stories07/february/0216073.htm

[26] Melloy, Kilian. "Democratic candidates offer answers on gay issues." (2007, May 30.) *Boston Edge.* Retrieved May 30, 2007 from: http://www.edgeboston.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glbt&sc2=news&sc3=&id=20722

[27] "S. 1510 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN01510:@@@L&summ2=m&

[28] "All in the family: Hillary Rodham Clinton supports Defense of Marriage Act." *The Advocate*. February 15, 2000. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1589/is_2000_Feb_15/ai_59410444

[29] Healy, Patrick. "Hillary on gay marriage." *New York Times blog.* October 26, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://empirezone.blogs.nytimes.com/2006/10/26/hillary-on-gay-marriage-2/

[30] Keen, Lisa. "Time to pick a president." *Bay Windows*. January 28, 2008. Retrieved January 28, 2008 from: http://www.baywindows.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glbt&sc2=features&sc3=&id=55460.

[31] Chibbaro, Lou. "Clinton promises 'open door' to White House. *Washington Blade*. March 9, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.washblade.com/2007/3-9/news/national/10150.cfm

[32] "Federal Marriage Amendment vote: S.J. Res. 40." GovTrackUS. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=s2004-155

[33] "Senate vote #163." GovTrackUS. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=s2006-163

Mike Huckabee on LGBT Issues:

Official Campaign Web site: http://www.explorehuckabee.com

Campaign Highlights/Points of Tension

- Wrote in his book, "Kids Who Kill," in 1998: "It is now difficult to keep track of the vast array of publicly endorsed and institutionally supported aberrations--from homosexuality and pedophilia to sadomasochism and necrophilia."[34]
- "[Do you believe you're born gay or you choose to be gay?] I don't know whether people are born that way. People who are gay say that they're born that way. But one thing I know, that the behavior one practices is a choice. We may have certain tendencies, but how we behave and how we carry out our behavior."[35]
- "It's not because I don't like them [gay people]. It's because I like even more the idea that the heart and soul, the essence of our civilization is in the family. It's not in the government. It's not even in some institution, not even the church. Before there was the church, and before there was government, there was family…When you mess with the design, you end up messing with results. We can't afford to do that. That's why you will never hear me waver."[36]

Opposes sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive ENDA

- Voted "Yes" when asked if he would veto the "'Employment Non-Discrimination Act' and any other legislation that would add the phrase 'sexual orientation' into federal law" as president.[37]

Unclear stance on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- In 1992, he made comments supporting the isolation of gay people with AIDS: "It is difficult to understand the public policy towards AIDS -- it is the first time in the history of civilization in which the carriers of a genuine plague have not been isolated from the general population, and in which this deadly disease for which there is no cure is being treated as a civil rights issue instead of the true health crisis it represents.".[38] [39] He has not disavowed this statement, even after being directly asked about it.[40]
- He has said that he would support the Bush administration's proposal to double funding for AIDS but said that he didn't want to shortchange other diseases that kill more people: "I want to make sure that when we look at a disease, whether it is AIDS, diabetes, or cancer, we look at it from the macro perspective, and we don't just single out one thing that affects, in America, you know, about 5,000 people a year." (The Centers for Disease Control reported that there were 42,514 new AIDS cases and 13,064 deaths from the disease in 2004, the most recent year for which it provided data. About 1.5 million people in the United States have been infected with the AIDS virus since 1981, resulting in more than 500,000 deaths.)[41]

Opposes lifting military ban

- During the televised GOP debate, he said: "I don't think that I would (change the current policy)."[42]
- Two months before the debate, he said: "I'm not sure that being homosexual should automatically disqualify a person from the military. If a person can do his or her job, you know that's not for me the biggest issue."[43]

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[34] "Dec. 30: Mike Huckabee, Barack Obama." *Meet the Press*. Retrieved from http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/22409176.
[35] "Dec. 30: Mike Huckabee, Barack Obama." *Meet the Press*. Retrieved from http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/22409176.
[36] "Republican Mike Huckabee explains anti-gay stances." *Advocate.com.* December 28, 2007. Retrieved January 31, 2008 from: http://www.advocate.com/news_detail_ektid51325.asp.
[37] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.
[38] Yeung, Bernice. "The Man Behind the Myth." *The Advocate*. December 14, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.advocate.com/exclusive_detail_ektid51091.asp.
[39] "Mike Huckabee on Civil Rights." *On the Issues*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.ontheissues.org/2008/Mike_Huckabee_Civil_Rights.htm.
[40] Resnick, Eric. "Ohio may still play a role in the primaries." *Gay People's Chronicle*. January 25, 2008. p. 1, 2, 4.
[41] Kranish, Michael. "Huckabee's views on gays under greater scrutiny." *The Boston Globe*. December 12, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2007/12/12/huckabees_views_on_gays_under_greater_scrutiny.
[42] "Republican presidential debate transcript." *CNN*. June 5, 2007. Retrieved June 6, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0706/05/se.01.html

Opposes sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws

- Said he would not support adding sexual orientation in Arkansas anti-discrimination laws.[44]
- Voted "Yes" when asked "If elected, can we count on you to veto any so-called 'hate crimes legislation?'".[45]

Opposes civil unions/domestic partnerships

- Said Arkansas should not recognize civil unions between same-sex couples.[46]
- "I have never supported civil unions, and I don't. I don't think it is something that is a good thing. I think in fact it's something that in fact just leads us to the ultimate idea of same-sex marriage, which I don't support."[47]

Opposes same-sex marriage

- My personal belief is that marriage is between one man and one woman, for life.[48]
- "I don't think that's a radical view to say we're going to affirm marriage. I think the radical view is to say that we're going to change the definition of marriage so that it can mean two men, two women, a man and three women, a man and a child, a man and animal. Again, once we change the definition, the door is open to change it again. I think the radical position is to make a change in what's been historic."[49]
- "That's what we need to do—is to amend the Constitution so it's in God's standards rather than try to change God's standards so it lines up with some contemporary view of how we treat each other and how we treat the family."[50]
- "I think that we were created to have relationships with someone of the opposite gender, that how's we reproduce, that's how we live our lives. So I think sometimes if you say is it a sin or immoral and people think you're making these terrible statements about somebody. I've had people who are gay that worked on my staff. It's not like I'm some homophobe. If you ask me is it the normal pathway? I don't think so… I go back to the point the a marriage ought to be, the context in which two people not only have, they may not have children but have the capacity and ultimately to train replacements and create the kind of environment in which people are able to thrive."[51]

Unclear on same-sex adoption

- "Q: So is it in the best interest of the child to have gay parents?
  A: I'm not sure that we have a positive answer to that. And until we absolutely could say it, then I'm always hesitant to change those institutions."[52]
- He said that absent a power of attorney, the lesbian partner of a childbearing woman should not automatically have equal parental rights. "It's a step toward changing the definition of marriage and family," he said, which he said he opposes.[53]
- As governor, Huckabee supported a state ban on gay couples becoming foster parents. It is one of only three states with a law of this kind still on the books.[54]

Supports Federal Marriage Amendment

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[43] Sidoti, Liz. "Huckabee: Gonzales is 'distraction.' *Associated Press*. April 24, 2007. Retrieved May 21, 2007 from: http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1613979,00.html
[44] "2002 AR Gubernatorial National Political Awareness Test." November 1, 2002. Retrieved May 21, 2007 from: www.vote-smart.org/pdf/npat2002/g-ar2002.pdf
[45] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.
[46] "2002 AR Gubernatorial National Political Awareness Test." November 1, 2002. Retrieved May 21, 2007 from: www.vote-smart.org/pdf/npat2002/g-ar2002.pdf
[47] *Scherer, Michael. "Mike Huckabee, on a wing and a prayer." Salon.com*. November 9, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: *http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2007/11/09/huckabee_interview/index.html?source=search&aim=/news/feature*.
[48] "Issues: Marriage." *Mike Huckabee for President*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.mikehuckabee.com/?FuseAction=Issues.View&Issue_id=10.
[49] Waldman, Steven and Dan Gilgoff. "Mike Huckabee: 'The Lord truly gave me wisdom.'" *Beliefnet*. Retrieved January 28, 2008 from: http://www.beliefnet.com/story/228/story_22873_1.html.
[50] Resnick, Eric. "Ohio may still play a role in the primaries." *Gay People's Chronicle*. January 25, 2008. p. 1, 2, 4.
[51] "Mike Huckabee on Tyra Banks". *Washington Blade blog*. February 25, 2008. Retrieved February 28, 2008 from: http://www.washblade.com/blog/index.cfm?blog_id=16832.
[52] "Interview with Tim Russert: Transcript." *Meet the Press*. January 28, 2007. Retrieved May 21, 2007 from: www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16785556/
[53] Sidoti, Liz. "Huckabee: Gonzales is 'distraction.' *Associated Press*. April 24, 2007. Retrieved May 21, 2007 from: http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1613979,00.html
[54] Yeung, Bernice. "The Man Behind the Myth." *The Advocate*. December 14, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.advocate.com/exclusive_detail_ektid51091.asp.

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- "I support and have always supported passage of a federal constitutional amendment that defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman. As President, I will fight for passage of this amendment. My personal belief is that marriage is between one man and one woman, for life."[55]
- In 2002, as Governor of Arkansas, he led a successful effort to pass a state constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union of one man and one woman.[56]
- "I support both the human rights amendment and a marriage amendment, and the reason that I do is because I think we need to codify in our Constitution that which has been acceptable and accepted view of what life and what marriage means."[57]

[55] "Issues: Marriage." *Mike Huckabee for President*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.mikehuckabee.com/?FuseAction=Issues.View&Issue_id=10.
[56] "Issues: Marriage." *Mike Huckabee for President*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.mikehuckabee.com/?FuseAction=Issues.View&Issue_id=10.
[57] Waldman, Steven and Dan Gilgoff. "Mike Huckabee: 'The Lord truly gave me wisdom.'" *Beliefnet*. Retrieved January 28, 2008 from: http://www.beliefnet.com/story/228/story_22873_1.html.

John McCain on LGBT Issues:

Official Campaign Web site: http://www.johnmccain.com

Campaign Highlights/Points of Tension

- Launched a robo-call campaign in Florida before the state's primaries saying in part: "Mitt Romney thinks he can fool us. He supported abortion on demand, even allowed a law mandating taxpayer-funding for abortion. He says he changed his mind, but he still hasn't changed the law. *He told gay organizers in Massachusetts he would be a stronger advocate for special rights than even Ted Kennedy. Now, it's something different.*"[58]

Opposes sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive ENDA

- Does not support.[59]
- Voted against ENDA in 1996.[60]

Opposes HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- Opposes Early Treatment for HIV Act.[61]

Opposes lifting military ban

- Supports "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy: "I do believe the don't ask, don't tell policy has been very effective. We've got the best military we've ever had….Generally, overall, it's working. I think it's logical to leave this issue alone—I really do." [62]
- Believes "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is "working": "Almost unanimously, they [military leaders] tell me that this present policy is working."[63]

Opposes sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws

- Did not support Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2005.[64] [65]

Opposes civil unions/domestic partnerships

- Opposes civil unions, "[b]ut I do believe that people ought to be able to enter into contracts, exchange powers of attorney, other ways that people who have relationships can enter into."
- "I am opposed to that legislation [civil unions legislation in New Hampshire]…If I were a citizen of New Hampshire, I would oppose it. ... Anything that impinges or impacts the sanctity of the marriage between men and women, I'm opposed to it."[66]

Opposes same-sex marriage

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[58] Stein, Sam. "McCain Accused Of Gay Baiting In Anti-Romney Attack." *The Huffington Post*. January 29, 2008. Retrieved January 31, 2008 from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/01/29/mccain-accused-of-gay-bai_n_83843.html.
[59] Lynsen, Joshua. "McCain vows to vote against marriage amendment." April 13, 2006. *Washington Blade.* Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.washblade.com/2006/4-13/news/national/floppin.cfm
[60] "S. 2056 [104th]: Employment Nondiscrimination Act of 1996 (Vote On Passage)." *GovTrack*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=s1996-281.
[61] Lynsen, Joshua. "McCain vows to vote against marriage amendment." April 13, 2006. *Washington Blade* Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.washblade.com/2006/4-13/news/national/floppin.cfm
[62] "Meet the Press transcript." MSNBC. November 12, 2006. Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15637887/
[63] "Part II: CNN/YouTube Republican presidential debate transcript." *CNN*. November 29, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2007 from http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/11/28/debate.transcript.part2/index.html.
[64] "S. 874 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN00847:@@@P
[65] Lynsen, Joshua. "McCain vows to vote against marriage amendment." April 13, 2006. *Washington Blade* Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.washblade.com/2006/4-13/news/national/floppin.cfm
[66] Sager, Ryan. "Exclusive: John McCain Comes Out Against NH Civil Unions." *New York Sun*. April 27, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.nysunpolitics.com/blog/2007/04/exclusive-john-mccain-comes-out.html.

- "The family represents the foundation of Western Civilization and civil society and John McCain believes the institution of marriage is a union between one man and one woman. It is only this definition that sufficiently recognizes the vital and unique role played by mothers and fathers in the raising of children, and the role of the family in shaping, stabilizing, and strengthening communities and our nation."[67]
- McCain starred in two television advertisements supporting the marriage ban in Arizona in 2006.[68]

Unknown stance on same-sex adoption

Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment

- "The constitutional amendment we're debating today strikes me as antithetical in every way to the core philosophy of Republicans," McCain said. "It usurps from the states a fundamental authority they have always possessed and imposes a federal remedy for a problem that most states do not believe confronts them."[69]

[67] "On the issues." John McCain 2008. Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/95b18512-d5b6-456e-90a2-12028d71df58.htm
[68] Stein, Sam. "McCain Accused Of Gay Baiting In Anti-Romney Attack." *The Huffington Post*. January 29, 2008. Retrieved January 31, 2008 from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/01/29/mccain-accused-of-gay-bai_n_83843.html.
[69] "McCain: Same-sex marriage ban is un-Republican." CNN. July 14, 2004. Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://www.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/07/14/mccain.marriage

Barack Obama on LGBT Issues:

Official Campaign Web site: http://www.barackobama.com/

Campaign Highlights/Points of Tension

- In response to a question on LGBT rights at a rally in Beaumont, TX, said: "I hear people saying things that I don't think are very Christian with respect to people who are gay and lesbian."[70]
- Obama mentions gays and lesbians during his MLK Day speech in front of a not explicitly LGBT, black, Christian audience at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta: "For most of this country's history, we in the African-American community have been at the receiving end of man's inhumanity to man. And all of us understand intimately the insidious role that race still sometimes plays – on the job, in the schools, in our health care system, and in our criminal justice system. And yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we must admit that none of our hands are entirely clean. If we're honest with ourselves, we'll acknowledge that our own community has not always been true to King's vision of a beloved community. *We have scorned our gay brothers and sisters instead of embracing them.* The scourge of anti-Semitism has, at times, revealed itself in our community. For too long, some of us have seen immigrants as competitors for jobs instead of companions in the fight for opportunity.[71]
- During his acceptance speech of Senator Kennedy's endorsement: "It lives on in those Americans who refuse to be deterred by the scale of the challenges that we face, who know as President Kennedy said…that no problem of human destiny is beyond human beings, and it lives on in those Americans young and old, rich and poor, black and white, Latino and Asia and Native American, gay and straight who are tired of a politics that divides us and want to recapture the sense of common purpose that we had when John Kennedy was president of the United States of America."
- Made appearances with "ex-gay" gospel singer Donnie McClurkin, who has told the Washington Post that he is fighting a "war" against "the curse of homosexuality".[72]

Supports sexual orientation- and transgender-inclusive ENDA

- "And as president, I will place the weight of my administration behind the enactment of…a fully inclusive Employment Non-Discrimination Act to outlaw workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity."[73]
- Gender identity (included in hate crime legislation) as well? "Absolutely. The transgendered community has to be protected. I just don't have any tolerance for that sort of intolerance. And I think we need to legislate aggressively to protect them." Do you support adding gender identity to the proposed Employment Non-Discrimination Act? " Yes." [74]
- Sponsored legislation in Illinois that would ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.[75]
- "I have been a strong advocate for hate-crimes legislation at the state level. I would continue to be an equally strong advocate at the federal level. I absolutely think that sexual orientation has to be included in all hate-crimes legislation." [76]

Supports HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- Co-sponsored legislation to bring Medicaid coverage to low-income, HIV-positive Americans[77]

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[70] Smith, Ben. "Selling Gay Rights." *Politico.com*. February 28, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.politico.com/blogs/bensmith/0208/Selling_gay_rights.html.
[71] Rospars, Joe. "'The Great Need of the Hour'". *Community Blogs – Obama'08*. January 20, 2008. Retrieved January 31, 2008 from: http://my.barackobama.com/page/community/post/rospars/CGxG9.
[72] Resnick, Eric. "Ohio may still play a role in the primaries." *Gay People's Chronicle*. January 25, 2008. p. 1, 2, 4.
[73] "Open letter from Barack Obama to the LGBT Community." *The Bilerico Project*. February 28, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.bilerico.com/2008/02/open_letter_from_barack_obama_to_the_lgb.php.
[74] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[75] Associated Press. "Obama record may be gold mine for critics." January 17, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/01/17/politics/main2369157.shtml
[76] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[77] "S. 311 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/D?d109:89:./temp/~bdxP2Y::|/bss/d109query.html|

- "(HIV/AIDS funding) has been a top priority for me, partly because I'm in charge of the Health and Human Services Committee in the Senate. I try to work very actively with the AIDS Foundation and other advocacy groups to improve our response here in Illinois…I've been a strong advocate, consistently, for increasing AIDS funding throughout my tenure in the state Senate…One of the things I'm constantly interested in is making sure that we're fighting complacency on this issue, because we're a long way from being out of the woods on the AIDS crisis." [78]
- On issues like (AIDS) prevention and care, we need to significantly increase funding, and we put out proposals to increase funding by at least $1 billion….On issues like AIDS funding, I see my job as not only getting more money and passing bills, but also changing and reframing the debate. I want to be able to reach out into the African-American community, where there may still be resistance and homophobia, and talk as a U.S. Senator about the importance of funding. [79]
- "Obama is the lead Democratic sponsor of the Microbicide Development Act, which encourages scientific leadership on this issue and strengthens research and development programs… Microbicides are a class of products currently under development that women could use to protect themselves from contracting HIV, even while conceiving children."[80]
- "The next president must also address the HIV/AIDS epidemic. When it comes to prevention, we do not have to choose between values and science. While abstinence education should be part of any strategy, we also need to use common sense. We should have age-appropriate sex education that includes information about contraception. We should pass the JUSTICE Act to combat infection within our prison population. And we should lift the federal ban on needle exchange, which could dramatically reduce rates of infection among drug users. In addition, local governments can protect public health by distributing contraceptives. We also need a president who's willing to confront the stigma – too often tied to homophobia – that continues to surround HIV/AIDS."[81]

Supports lifting military ban

- "We must repeal the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' military policy"[82]
- "I think it needs to be eliminated. ... I think it is safe to assume that we have a significant number of gay and lesbian soldiers in Iraq. The notion that somehow they should be treated differently is contrary to what this country is about."[83]
- SLDN considers him an ally. [84]
- Supports military equivalent of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.[85]

Supports sexual orientation-inclusive hate crimes laws, unclear if supports transgender-inclusive hate crimes laws

- "And as president, I will place the weight of my administration behind the enactment of the Matthew Shepard Act to outlaw hate crimes."[86]
- Co-sponsored Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2005, which would expand federal jurisdiction to reach serious, violent hate crimes perpetrated because of the "actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability" of the victim. [87]

Supports civil unions/domestic partnerships

- "I am a fierce supporter of domestic partnership and civil union laws." [88]

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[78] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[79] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[80] "Healthcare." Barack Obama: U.S. Senator for Illinois. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://obama.senate.gov/issues/health_care/index.html
[81] "Open letter from Barack Obama to the LGBT Community." *The Bilerico Project*. February 28, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.bilerico.com/2008/02/open_letter_from_barack_obama_to_the_lgb.php.
[82] Obama, Barack. "Obama on marriage." *Windy City Times*. February 11, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=4018
[83] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[84] Avotte, Christie. "Obama is my homeboy." *Southern Voice*. February 16, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.southernvoice.com/2007/2-16/view/columns/6523.cfm
[85] Glassman, Anthony. "Worries of fair-weather support are revealed a town hall". *Gay People's Chronicle.* February 29, 2008. Retrieved February 29, 2008 from: http://www.gaypeopleschronicle.com/stories08/february/0229082.htm.
[86] "Open letter from Barack Obama to the LGBT Community." *The Bilerico Project*. February 28, 2008. Retrieved March 3, 2008 from: http://www.bilerico.com/2008/02/open_letter_from_barack_obama_to_the_lgb.php.
[87] "Local Law Enforcement Act of 2005." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c109:S.1145:

- "I believe that American society can choose to carve out a special place for the union of a man and a woman as the unit of child rearing most common to every culture. I am not willing to have the state deny American citizens a civil union that confers equivalent rights"[89]
- "I also think that we should create civil unions for gays and lesbians that allow them to have the same basic rights as all people." [90]
- "So hospital visitations, the ability of partners to provide health care coverage to each other, making sure they are not discriminated on the job or in terms of housing, their ability to transfer property -- those are things that I think are entirely compatible with Americans' understanding of basic tolerance and fairness…[91]
- "Barack Obama supports civil unions that give gay couples full rights, including the right to assist their loved ones in times of emergency, the right to equal health insurance and other employment benefits currently extended to traditional married couples and the same property rights as anyone else."[92]
- "I believe that American society can choose to carve out a special place for the union of a man and a woman as the unit of child rearing most common to every culture. I am not willing to have the state deny American citizens a civil union that confers equivalent rights"[93]
- "[T]he civil unions that I proposed would be equivalent in terms of making sure that all the rights that are conferred by the state are equal for same-sex couples as well as for heterosexual couples. Now, with respect to marriage, it's my belief that it's up to the individual denominations to make a decision as to whether they want to recognize marriage or not. But in terms of, you know, the rights of people to transfer property, to have hospital visitation, all those critical civil rights that are conferred by our government, those should be equal."[94]

Opposes same-sex marriage

- "Strategically, I think we can get civil unions passed…I think that to the extent that we can get the rights, I'm less concerned about the name" [95]
- "And I should say that personally, I do believe that marriage is between a man and a woman."[96] "I am somebody who has not embraced gay marriage. I've said that it's not something that I think the society is necessarily ready for. And it strikes me that in a lot of ways for a lot of people; it may intrude in how they understand marriage."[97]
- Wants DOMA repealed.[98]
- Voted against Federal Marriage Amendment in 2006.[99]

Supports same-sex adoption

- "Barack Obama believes that homosexuals should have the same adoption rights as heterosexuals."[100]
- "I think that's really a state issue. I think that one of the things, as an advocate on behalf of gay and lesbian issues, I would like to be able to do, is throw issues of state's rights back in the face of Republicans who, for example, try to pass constitutional amendments or federal laws that prevent states from adopting their own policies." [101]

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[88] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[89] Obama, Barack. *The Audacity of Hope.* (2006). Crown: New York. p. 222.
[90] "Interview with Barack Obama." *Larry King Live.* CNN. October 19, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0610/19/lkl.01.html
[91] "Interview with Barack Obama." *Larry King Live.* CNN. October 19, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0610/19/lkl.01.html
[92] Melloy, Kilian. "Democratic candidates offer answers on gay issues." (2007, May 30.) *Boston Edge.* Retrieved May 30, 2007 from: http://www.edgeboston.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glbt&sc2=news&sc3=&id=20722
[93] Obama, Barack. *The Audacity of Hope.* (2006). Crown: New York. p. 222.
[94] "Part I: CNN/YouTube Democratic presidential debate transcript." *CNN.* July 24, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/07/23/debate.transcript.
[95] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*
[96] Obama, Barack. "Floor statement of Senator Barack Obama on the Federal Marriage Amendment." Barack Obama: U.S. Senator for Illinois. June 5, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://obama.senate.gov/speech/060605-floor_statement_of_senator_barack_obama_on_the_federal_marriage_amendment/index.html
[97] "Interview with Barack Obama." *Larry King Live.* CNN. October 19, 2006. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0610/19/lkl.01.html
[98] Horowitz, Jason. "What's pink, green? Senator Clinton hauling gay cash." *The New York Observer*. March 18, 2007. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.observer.com/node/36944
[99] "Senate vote #163." GovTrackUS. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=s2006-163
[100] "Barack Obama's support for the gay and lesbian community." *Barack Obama in '08.* Retrieved June 1, 2007 from: http://www.sovo.com/2007/5-25/Obama.pdf
[101] Baim, Tracy. "Obama seeks U.S. Senate seat." *Windy City Times.* February 4, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: *http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=3931*

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 2008 Presidential Candidates Positions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment

- Voted against it, June '06. [102]
- "For the record, I opposed DOMA [the Defense of Marriage Act] in 1996. It should be repealed and I will vote for its repeal on the Senate floor. I will also oppose any proposal to amend the U.S. Constitution to ban gays and lesbians from marrying...the repeal of DOMA is essential." [103] (The 1996 DOMA to which he's referring is the Federal DOMA, but that year Illinois also passed a state DOMA, and no information on his position on the state DOMA could be found online.)

[102] "Senate vote #163." GovTrackUS. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=s2006-163

[103] Obama, Barack. "Obama on marriage." *Windy City Times*. February 11, 2004. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=4018

Ron Paul on LGBT Issues:

Official Campaign Web site: http://www.ronpaul2008.com

Campaign Highlights/Points of Tension

Opposes transgender-inclusive ENDA

- Voted "Yes" when asked if he would veto the "'Employment Non-Discrimination Act' and any other legislation that would add the phrase 'sexual orientation' into federal law" as president.[104]

Unknown stance on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment

- Not a co-sponsor of ETHA (the Early Treatment for HIV Act).[105]

Opposes lifting military ban

- **"**I think the current policy is a decent policy."[106]

Opposes hate crimes laws

- "You should eradicate all these hate laws. These hate laws indicate that there's something subjective in hate laws that indicate that some people would receive a different penalty on others. This violates the principal of the importance of the individual and confuses us about the importance of individual rights."[107]
- Voted "Yes" when asked "If elected, can we count on you to veto any so-called 'hate crimes legislation?'".[108]

Unclear stance on civil unions/domestic partnerships

- Did not support the Uniting American Families Act[109]
- In 2001, he voted for an amendment prohibiting the use of federal funds for the implementation of the District of Columbia's domestic partnership act.[110]

Opposes same-sex marriage

- **"**Supports definition of marriage as between a man and a woman, but opposes any federal marriage definition. Says that states should not be forced to recognize another state's same-sex marriage law. Opposed House measure amending the Constitution to ban same-sex marriage."[111]

Opposes same-sex adoption

- Voted in support of banning "gay adoptions" in D.C. in 1999.[112]

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[104] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.
[105] "S. 874 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 15, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN00847:@@@P
[106] "Republican presidential debate transcript." *CNN*. June 5, 2007. Retrieved June 6, 2007 from: http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0706/05/se.01.html
[107] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.
[108] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.
[109] "S. 1510 co-sponsors." Library of Congress. http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN01510:@@@L&summ2=m&
[110] "FINAL VOTE RESULTS FOR ROLL CALL 352." September 25, 2001. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2001/roll352.xml.
[111] "Election center 2008." *CNN.* Retrieved June 5, 2007 from: http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/issues/issues.samesexmarriage.html
[112] "H.R. 2587." Library of Congress. Retrieved May 16, 2007 from: http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:H.R.2587:

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 2008 Presidential Candidates Positions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

Opposes Federal Marriage Amendment

- "While I oppose federal efforts to redefine marriage as something other than a union between one man and one woman, I do not believe a constitutional amendment is either a necessary or proper way to defend marriage."[113]
- Voted against it.[114]
- "I believe also that I do not see any need for another constitutional amendment…For federal legal purposes, the Defense of Marriage Act is proper. It takes care of all the problems. If you have to have rules and regulations, put in at the state level, like the Constitution says."[115]

[113] Paul, Ron. "Cultural conservatives lose if gay marriage is federalized." Ron Paul's speeches and statements. September 30, 2004. Retrieved June 5, 2007 from: http://www.house.gov/paul/congrec/congrec2004/cr093004.htm

[114] "H.J. Res. 88: Marriage protection amendment votes." GovTrack.us. Retrieved June 6, 2007 from: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=h2006-378

[115] "Values Voter Presidential Debate Official Transcript." *Value Voter Debate*. Retrieved January 14, 2008 from: http://valuesvoterdebate.com/downloads/transcript.pdf.