

**News and Current Events :: AP: Obama to sign UN gay rights declaration**

AP: Obama to sign UN gay rights declaration - posted by ccchhrrriiiss () , on: 2009/3/18 3:34

Sources: US to sign UN gay rights declaration

By MATTHEW LEE,
Associated Press Writer
Wed Mar 18, 2009

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration will endorse a U.N. declaration calling for the worldwide decriminalization of homosexuality that then-President George W. Bush had refused to sign, The Associated Press has learned.

U.S. officials said Tuesday they had notified the declaration's French sponsors that the administration wants to be added as a supporter. The Bush administration was criticized in December when it was the only western government that refused to sign on.

The move was made after an interagency review of the Bush administration's position on the nonbinding document, which was signed by all 27 European Union members as well as Japan, Australia, Mexico and three dozen other countries, the officials said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because Congress was still being notified of the decision. They said the administration had decided to sign the declaration to demonstrate that the United States supports human rights for all.

"The United States is an outspoken defender of human rights and critic of human rights abuses around the world," said one official.

"As such, we join with the other supporters of this statement and we will continue to remind countries of the importance of respecting the human rights of all people in all appropriate international fora," the official said.

The official added that the United States was concerned about "violence and human rights abuses against gay, lesbian, transsexual and bisexual individuals" and was also "troubled by the criminalization of sexual orientation in many countries."

"In the words of the United States Supreme Court, the right to be free from criminalization on the basis of sexual orientation 'has been accepted as an integral part of human freedom'," the official said.

Gay rights and other groups had criticized the Bush administration when it refused to sign the declaration when it was presented at the United Nations on Dec. 19. U.S. officials said then that the U.S. opposed discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation but that parts of the declaration raised legal questions that needed further review.

According to negotiators, the Bush team had concerns that those parts could commit the federal government on matters that fall under state jurisdiction. In some states, landlords and private employers are allowed to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation; on the federal level, gays are not allowed to serve openly in the military.

It was not immediately clear on Tuesday how the Obama administration had come to a different conclusion.

When it was voted on in December, 66 of the U.N.'s 192 member countries signed the declaration — which backers called a historic step to push the General Assembly to deal more forthrightly with anti-gay discrimination.

But 70 U.N. members outlaw homosexuality — and in several, homosexual acts can be punished by execution. More than 50 nations, including members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, opposed the declaration.

Some Islamic countries said at the time that protecting sexual orientation could lead to "the social normalization and possibly the legalization of deplorable acts" such as pedophilia and incest. The declaration was also opposed by the Vatican.

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Click (http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090318/ap_on_go_pr_wh/obama_gay_rights) HERE to read complete article.

Re: AP: Obama to sign UN gay rights declaration, on: 2009/3/18 8:28

Can someone please explain to me, under the Constitution and Bill of Rights, exactly what rights do gays/lesbians NOT have??

Krispy

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiisss (), on: 2009/3/18 12:14

Hi Krispy...

There aren't any particular Constitutional "rights" given to (or even taken away from) someone based upon their sexual l usts. That is the point...exactly. Yet homosexuals and their advocates are doing their best to convince Americans that h omosexuals deserve special "minority" status in this nation. This is why they campaign under the notion that homosexu als are "born that way" (when, in fact, people are born asexual...and only develop their sexual awareness following pube scence). Yet the homosexual left are trying to convince us that at least 1/10 of Americans are homosexuals. Like aborti on, I feel that this is a concerted effort to undermine the first command to mankind in the Scriptures (be fruitful and multi ply...and have dominion over creation).

The current "conservative" Court majority tends to lean 5-4 as "strict constructionists" who feel that anything that is not e xpressly written into the Constitution should either be left to the individuals states...or is simply unconstitutional. So far, a "homosexual marriage" issue hasn't made it onto the docket of the Supreme Court. This is probably because the left k nows that it would likely fail on a 5-4 vote...at least for now. However, this article shows how quickly and decisively the p resent Administration is moving on behalf of abortion and the homosexual agenda.

We need revival. We need God to wake up the Church -- not simply as a means to curtail such blatant ungodliness -- b ut as a spark that will cause us to realize how spiritually dry and barren this world is becoming. Our voice should be disti nctive from that of this world...and demonstrate the thoughts of God to a lost and dying world that is growing increasingly destitute.

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2009/3/18 13:04

(Edit: There is less and less that can be said today, that hasn't already been said.)

MC

Re: - posted by MattChenier (), on: 2009/3/18 17:37

Quite honestly I say let it come. Don't get me wrong, I don't like people being polluted in their minds and in our society. However, that is what the world is, pollution. The darker it gets the more we will shine. We may finally have our chance to be martyrs here in America. Does that scare you? We pray to be like the early church, and are greatest opportunity i s coming and even already started. Our government is leading this nation into darkness, shine church shine. What a pri vilege to be punished for speaking out for God. How real will our message be then? I am excited about these things!

Re: AP: Obama to sign UN gay rights declaration - posted by narrowpath, on: 2009/3/18 19:21

Homosexuality is not a human right but a human WRONG.

Re: - posted by MattChenier (), on: 2009/3/19 2:20

LOL! I hope I remember that. I always hear good sayings and I always say "I hope I remember that" but I don't.