



Concerned Citizen California Action Alert

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Leno Attempts End Run around Prop 8

Last month, Sen. Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) took a health care bill that had already passed the State Senate and gutted it entirely, amending the measure in an attempt to undermine your vote for Prop 8. [SB 54](#) is now a bill requiring California to recognize same-sex "marriages" from other states as valid here if they occurred prior to November 5, 2008 (the day Prop 8 took effect). The bill further requires our state to recognize same-sex "marriages" from other states as equal to our definition of marriage in every way, except for the designation "marriage."

Note: SB 54 did not pass the Senate in its current form and will have to return there if it passes the Assembly.

Two other bills by Sen. Leno are also poised for votes on the Assembly floor.

SB 572 seeks to normalize homosexuality through our California public schools by establishing a "day of special significance" honoring the late Harvey Milk. Read more about this bill, opposed by 69 percent of Californians in a recent poll, [here](#).

SB 543 authorizes a minor as young as age 12 to consent to mental health treatment or to residential shelter services without the consent of a parent if a "professional person," as defined by the bill, considers the minor "mature enough" to participate and indicates that involving a parent would be "inappropriate." Current law allows this only if the minor presents "a danger of serious physical or mental harm to himself or herself, or others, without the mental health treatment or counseling or residential shelter services, or be the alleged victim of incest or child abuse." Current law also stipulates that the "professional person" must make every effort to contact a parent. SB 543 deletes these provisions.

Action: Please share your concerns with your assemblymember during the August recess. This time affords you an opportunity to visit your assemblymember's office or take part in town hall meetings. In addition, staff remains in Sacramento and will continue to record your calls, faxes and e-mails. When legislators return to Sacramento on August 17 there will be less than four weeks left before the September 11 deadline to pass all bills through their second house and the pace will quicken considerably. [Find your assemblymember here](#).

Please send a handwritten note to the governor asking him to veto these bills if they are presented to him. Send to: The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814 or fax your letter to (916) 558-3160. You may also call Gov. Schwarzenegger's office at (916) 445-2841 or e-mail him through <http://gov.ca.gov/interact>.

In addition, a **telephone survey for SB 572 (Harvey Milk Day)** has now been established on the governor's office line. Call (916) 445-2841; press "1" to continue in English; press "2" to connect to the legislation area; press "1" to voice your opinion on SB 572; press "2" to oppose.

[Find a sample letter for SB 572 here.](#)

[Find a sample letter for SB 54 here.](#)

[Find a sample veto letter for SB 572 here.](#)

[Find a sample letter for SB 543 here.](#)

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