

GAY POLITICS REPORT

Top Story

- **[Romney's VP contenders have mostly anti-LGBT records](#)**
The major contenders to be Mitt Romney's running mate mostly hold anti-equality positions on issues such as marriage equality and employment non-discrimination laws, according to an analysis by the American Civil Liberties Union. "Gov. Romney's pick might end up a heartbeat from the presidency, but they'll be light years from civil liberties," ACLU executive director Anthony D. Romero said. Among the possible vice presidential picks is Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., who opposes her state's marriage equality law and supports an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would overturn it. [Advocate.com](#) (7/17) Share: [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)



Politics and Policy

- **[Boy Scouts to continue ban on gays](#)**
The Boys Scouts of America committee charged with reviewing the group's ban on gay members has unanimously concluded that the policy should continue, the group announced today. A statement from BSA said that the organization understands some board members disagree with the policy, but added, "BSA leadership agrees this is the best policy for the organization." [ABC News/The Associated Press](#) (7/17) Share: [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[Supreme Court asked to take third DOMA case](#)**
The American Civil Liberties Union has asked the Supreme Court to hear the case of a widow who was forced to pay a tax on her wife's estate that she would not have had to pay if her spouse were male. Lawyers for Edie Windsor, 83, decided to skip a step at the federal appeals court level and ask the high court to take the case. [The Huffington Post](#) (7/16), [BuzzFeed](#) (7/16) Share: [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[Marriage issue could dominate party platform discussions](#)**
With one anti-gay group warning Republican party donors that some within the GOP want to change the party's platform language on marriage equality, the issue could take center stage at GOP and Democratic platform-writing meetings, according to this article. [National Journal/2012 Decoded](#) (7/16) Share: [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[7 out candidates highlighted](#)**
The Advocate looks at seven openly LGBT candidates who are "hot prospects" for taking seats in Congress and state Legislatures. The prospects include Kyrsten Sinema, an out lesbian and former state lawmaker who could become the first openly bisexual U.S. representative. [Advocate.com](#) (7/12) Share: [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[Anti-LGBT laws put families at risk, advocates say](#)**
Children in LGBT families are adversely affected by anti-gay state laws and policies, including those that forbid recognition of non-biological parents, according to new report. A case in Louisiana, in which a child was taken from a gay parent who had raised him since birth and for



VIDEO



VIDEO

nearly seven years, highlights the lack of legal protections even for parents who have been primary caregivers. [ABC News/Good Morning America](#) (7/17) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

▪ **[Challenge to Calif. LGBT history law fails](#)**

Opponents of a new law requiring California schools to teach the historical contributions of LGBT individuals have failed to gather enough signatures to force a ballot question that could have overturned it. The law went into effect in January. [The Sacramento Bee \(Calif.\)/The Associated Press](#) (free registration) (7/16) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

▪ **[Gay donors play significant role in 2012 presidential election](#)**

PBS Newshour looks at the role of gay political donors in the current presidential campaign, especially in light of President Barack Obama's public embrace of marriage rights for same-sex couples. Obama raised about \$9 million in the days following the announcement, triple the amount raised in the three days preceding it. [PBS/Newshour](#) (7/16) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

▪ **Other News**

• **[Obama won't make it to International AIDS Conference in D.C.](#)**

[Washington Blade](#) (7/16) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

• **[Former aide says Florida Lt. Gov. Carroll caught in "compromising position"](#)**

[The Miami Herald/The News Service of Florida](#) (free registration) (7/14) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

• **[Scotland to consider extending marriage rights to same-sex couples](#)**

[BBC](#) (7/16) [Share:](#) [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

Opinion



OPINION

▪ **[Who do you expect Mitt Romney to choose as his vice presidential running mate?](#)**

Vote [Tim Pawlenty](#)

Vote [Marco Rubio](#)

Vote [Rob Portman](#)

Vote [Condoleezza Rice](#)

Vote [Kelly Ayotte](#)

Vote [Paul Ryan](#)

Vote [Chris Christie](#)

Vote [Someone else](#)

▪ **[Most Republican voters favor LGBT equality](#)**

Republican voters are not anti-gay, according to Cato Institute's David Lampo, who in this article reviews numerous recent polls of Republicans on LGBT issues such as marriage, employment non-discrimination and open military service. "Now that the campaigns have moved to general election calculus ... the Romney campaign, and Republican candidates

nationwide, would do well to take heed," Lampo writes. [Los Angeles Times](#) (tiered subscription model) (7/16) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

Leadership Spotlight

- **[L.A. civil rights activist Willis Edwards dies](#)**
Willis Edwards, the longtime political and civil rights activist who headed the Beverly Hills-Hollywood NAACP chapter, has died of cancer at age 66. Edwards, who nearly died of AIDS 15 years ago, was active in working to get the African-American community engaged in the fight against the disease. [Frontiers In L.A. \(Los Angeles\)](#) (7/14), [Los Angeles Times](#) (tiered subscription model) (7/15) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[Program to develop LGBT leaders gets major gift](#)**
The David Bohnett Foundation has committed \$800,000 to a program designed to send openly LGBT public officials to the Harvard Kennedy School to grow their leadership skills. The David Bohnett LGBT Leadership Fellows program is run by the Gay & Lesbian Victory Institute, which named its 100th fellow in 2012, the 10th year of the program. [The Huffington Post](#) (7/10), [Washington Blade](#) (7/16) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)

Beyond Politics

- **[Outlook for AIDS vaccine brightens, researchers say](#)**
Researchers are increasingly hopeful that an effective vaccine against HIV transmission is on the horizon, with one predicting a licensed vaccine could be possible by 2019. "We're really working as fast as we can," said Col. Nelson Michael, director of the U.S. Military HIV Research Program at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. About 2.7 million new HIV infections occurred in 2010 alone. [Reuters](#) (7/15) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **Other News**
- **[New U.S. Navy carriers feature gender-neutral bathrooms](#)**
CNN/This Just In blog (7/11) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)
- **[Target selling cards celebrating weddings of same-sex couples](#)**
Star Tribune (Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.) (7/15) **Share:** [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [E-MAIL](#)