



THE GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

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Jim Gibbons  
Governor  
State of Nevada  
State Capitol  
101 N. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

April 14, 2009

Dear Governor Gibbons,

In a recent article posted online by the *Las Vegas Review Journal*, ([Gibbons won't sign domestic partners bill 04/14/2009](#)) you expressed your intention to “not sign” the domestic partners bill (SB 283) introduced by Senator David Parks, because you “...don’t believe in it.” We find this statement uninformed and shortsighted. While we did not witness the actual interview or the question that was posed to you, your response has caused us great concern. Therefore, we respectfully request an audience with you at your earliest convenience to discuss with you the daily realities of same-sex relationships and the similarities they bear to the opposite-sex relationships it would appear you “do believe in.”

For far too long, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) citizens in Nevada and in our Nation have been treated unequally simply because of how they were born or whom they love. LGBT Americans, including those of us who choose to make our home in Nevada, will no longer tolerate attitudes and actions that continue to deprive us of our basic constitutional rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; the same rights that every citizen of this nation are supposedly guaranteed. Our desire to live, work, live and contribute to the betterment of our communities is no different from our fellow citizens. We do not understand why you would actively seek to segregate your LGBT constituents from fully enjoying the same rights and benefits that you believe some people are exclusively entitled to, but which our constitution guarantees for all.

Governor Gibbons, in your role as the chief constitutional officer of the State of Nevada, we seek to meet with you to explain why our lives and relationships are as worthy of the same respect afforded any Nevadan in a loving, committed relationship.

Please consider this our official request to meet with you. You may contact Tom Kovach, President of the Center’s Board, to arrange a meeting at your earliest convenience. We look forward to meeting with you and receiving your timely response to our request.

Sincerely,  
*Board of Directors*  
The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada