



POWER AND POLITICS IN 1984

Right to Privacy PAC, Oregon's largest organization advocating for lesbian and gay rights issues, asked every candidate for elective office in the state to respond to questionnaires on issues sensitive to gay and lesbian constituents. The majority of those candidates returning the questionnaires are Democrats from urban areas.

With few exceptions, the responses were favorable to lesbians and gays and contained little comment. The exceptions are indicative of the widespread homophobia among a large portion of the population.

One comment underscored the ambivalence and caution displayed by many people in districts outside the Portland Metropolitan area. The respondent, a woman from Southern Oregon, said, "I already have good support from local gays and lesbians whom I know, but because of the conservative nature of this district I am not publicly advertising this fact."

Several of the respondents noted that an endorsement from Right to Privacy PAC would hinder their candidacy although they are sympathetic to lesbian and gay rights.

Legislative Candidate Questionnaire — Primary 1984

Oregon's civil rights statutes prohibit discrimination based on sex, race, color, religion, or national origin. As a legislator, how would you respond to legislation to extend Oregon's civil rights statutes to include protection of people who are discriminated against because of their sexual orientation in housing (for example, being able to rent an apartment) and in employment (for example, being fired from a job)?

As a legislator, how would you respond to legislation to extend Oregon's civil rights statutes to include protection of people who are discriminated against because of their sexual orientation in public accommodations (for example, being served in a restaurant, getting a room in a hotel or obtaining a credit card)?

Congress is considering different Constitutional amendments to restrict a woman's right to choose abortion. Some versions

STATEWIDE RACES

U.S. Senator

Margie Hendrickson, (Eugene)
Hendrickson is a progressive. She has worked hard for us in the state senate. If she wins the primary she will oppose Mark Hatfield in November. Endorsed by Right to Privacy PAC.

CONGRESS

District 1

George Vernon, (Beaverton)
Vernon does not appear to be politically progressive. He is a Republican.

District 3

Thomas Phelan, (Portland)
A vote for Phelan would not serve the best interests of his district.

District 4

Jim Weaver, Eugene)
Weaver is a co-sponsor of HR 2624.

overturn the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that abortion is a Constitutional right under the privacy clause. Other versions would allow both Congress and states to restrict a woman's right to choose abortion with the most restrictive law controlling. Should the Oregon Legislature face any such Constitutional amendment, how would you respond?

Will you actively seek the support and votes of lesbians and gay men in your campaign?

Congressional Candidate Questionnaire — Primary 1984

Congress is now considering a bill (H.R. 2624) that would add prohibitions against discrimination based on sexual orientation to the existing protections of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. How would you respond to such a bill?

Would you sponsor legislation such as

District 5

Ruth McFarland, (Woodburn)
McFarland is progressive and fair-minded. She has been endorsed by Right to Privacy PAC. She is opposing conservative Democrat Denny Smith. A vote for McFarland is a vote for us.

State Treasurer:

Grattan Kerans.
Kerans has been a friend to lesbians and gays. He is also in favor of ERA and is pro-choice.

Secretary of State:

Barbara Roberts
Roberts will advocate gay and lesbian rights. Is pro-choice and pro-ERA. Endorsed by Right to Privacy PAC.

Jim Gardner
Gardner co-sponsored Oregon lesbian and gay rights bills introduced in '79, '81 and '83. And he will continue to lobby for our civil rights. Endorsed by

H.R. 2624 as mentioned above?

Under current provisions of the immigration law, lesbians and gay men can be excluded from entering the United States. How would you respond to legislation eliminating such provisions from the immigration law?

Would you support preserving judicial review of exclusion decisions made by the Immigration and Naturalization Service?

Right to Privacy Questionnaire

In light of the experience of the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) crisis, will you support efforts to make the nation's health care system more responsive to public health emergencies in the future?

How would you respond to an administrative or legislative attempt to restrict access by gays or lesbians to any government-funded program?

Right to Privacy PAC.

Thomas Hardwick
Hardwick did not answer the questionnaire and said that the office of the secretary of state could not do anything for gay and lesbian rights, the ERA or abortion, etc. He said his opinion on these matters means nothing.

STATE SENATE DISTRICT RACES

District 2

Del Isham, (Newport)
Isham needs more pressure from his constituency, he is *iffy* on most issues of lesbian and gay rights but is an advocate of ERA and is pro-choice. Our Newport readers should let Isham know how they feel about his representation in the Senate.

District 6.

Jan Wyers (Portland)
Wyers has been supportive since 1975 and fought for SB 319 in '83. Endorsed by Right to Privacy PAC.

Carolyn Gaudry

Gaudry said she wanted to learn more about the issues and did not have enough time to answer the questionnaire.

District 7

Mark Goldfarb (Portland)
Co-founder of the Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association and Oregon Fair Share member, Goldfarb says he understands the district, half East County and half YUPpy and GUPpy. Goldfarb is opposing the incumbent Rod Monroe, who last year voted against SB 319 after promising to vote in favor. Monroe did not respond to the questionnaire. A vote for Goldfarb would be a vote in our favor.

(SB 319 was a lesbian and gay rights bill introduced last year which reached the Senate floor before being defeated.)

District 8

Bill McCoy, (Portland)
McCoy has the endorsement of the

Do you support passage of the Equal Rights Amendment?

Do you support freedom of choice on abortion?

How would you respond to restrictions on Medicaid and other federally financed programs that attempt to limit access to abortion by women?

How would you respond to constitutional amendments that would restrict a woman's right to choose an abortion or that would leave the matter to the states?

Will you actively seek the support and votes of lesbians and gay men in your election campaign?

Will you work to include openly gay/lesbian people on your campaign and Congressional staff?