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delegation to the Democratic National Convention and Committees.

- Serve as a vehicle for queer access to Democratic elected officials and candidates.

Membership is free and open to any Oregonian who wishes to participate in the GLBT Caucus and is registered to vote. For additional

information, contact State Central Committee member Frank Dixon at 503-242-3585 or fdixon@hevanet.com.

—SD

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE SAYS YES TO CIVIL UNIONS

The Oregon Legislature's Senate Rules Committee approved June 7 by a 3-2 vote Senate Bill 1073, which creates civil unions providing all of

the state protections and responsibilities of marriage to same-sex couples and their families.

"Never before has the Oregon Legislature acted to provide Oregon same-sex couples with the legal protections all families require every day and in times of crisis," said Basic Rights Oregon executive director Roey Thorpe. "Basic Rights Oregon applauds the courage of senators who today ensured that fairness and decency won out over prejudice."

The committee vote, however, is just the first step in the legislative process needed to make SB 1073 the law in Oregon. The bill must now be approved by a floor vote in the Senate before moving to the House. With less than 30 days left in the legislative session, BRO is urging the Senate to act quickly and approve the bill.

"For Oregon same-sex couples, and we don't even know which ones will be hit hardest, each day that goes by without civil unions is a day that families are vulnerable to tragedy, and two more years is too long to wait for another try in another legislative session," said Thorpe. "Oregon lawmakers now have it within their power to prevent these tragedies, and we are counting on them to side with decency and fairness and pass SB 1073 immediately."

—SD

MEMORIAL TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF LEGENDARY FEMINIST

Andrea Dworkin, internationally renowned radical feminist activist and author who helped break the silence around violence against

women, died April 9 in her home. She was 58.

The feminist community will come together June 19 to celebrate Dworkin's life and her work as a political artist of unparalleled passion and achievement. The memorial will begin 5 p.m. at Liberty Hall, 311 N. Ivy St.

In her determination to articulate the experiences of poor, lower-class, marginal and prosti-

tuted women, Dworkin deepened public awareness of rape, battery, pornography and prostitution. She is co-author of the pioneering Minneapolis and Indianapolis ordinances that define pornography as a civil rights violation against women.

Always innovative and often controversial, Dworkin carved out a unique position as one of the women's movement's most influential fig-

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Andrea Dworkin is remembered as a lightning rod of controversy for her stance on pornography.



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