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# Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?

## LOCAL NEWS



Gov. Chris Gregoire looks towards family members in the audience in Olympia, Wash. Monday shortly before signing legislation legalizing gay marriage in the state. (AP photo)

# Equal Rights Victory

## Same-sex marriage bill signed into law

Gov. Chris Gregoire handed gay rights advocates a major victory Monday, signing into law a measure that legalizes same-sex marriage in Washington state, making it the seventh in the nation to allow gay and lesbian couples to wed. Gregoire signed the bill surrounded by gay rights supporters. "I'm proud our same-sex couples will no longer be treated as separate but equal," she said.

The law takes effect June 7, but

opponents on multiple fronts already are preparing to fight. Opponents planned to file a challenge that could put the law on hold pending the outcome of a November vote. Separately, an initiative was filed at the beginning of the Washington Legislature that opponents of gay marriage say could lead to the new law being overturned. Sen. Ed Murray, a Seattle Democrat who is gay and has sponsored gay rights legislation for years, told the cheering crowd at Monday's signing ceremony: "My friends, welcome to the other side of the rainbow. No matter what the future holds, nothing will take this moment

away from us." As the Democratic governor signed the legislation, a man shouted, "Do not betray Christ!" However, his voice was overwhelmed by gay-marriage supporters who cheered and spoke loudly during his outburst. Washington has had domestic partnership laws since 2007, and in 2009 passed an "everything but marriage" expansion of that law, which was ultimately upheld by voters after a referendum challenge. Same-sex marriage also has the backing of several prominent Pacific Northwest businesses, including Microsoft Corp., Nike Inc. and Starbucks Corp.

# Tuition-Free Magnet Expands

## Jefferson Middle College has new partners

The renaissance at Jefferson High School in north Portland got a major boost with the addition of three more members to the school's Middle College for Advanced Studies scholarship partnership. Oregon State University, Portland State University, and Warner Pacific College are joining the University of Oregon in offering robust scholarship opportunities to graduates of the innovative program. The three institutions officially announced their scholarships at a news conference last week on the Jefferson campus. Prospective students and their parents are invited



Education leaders celebrate the expansion of scholarships for graduates of the Jefferson High School Middle College program. Pictured (from left) are PSU Director of Student Aid Phillip Rodgers, Warner Pacific President Andrea Cook, PCC President Preston Pulliams, OSU President Edward Ray and Portland Superintendent Carole Smith.

to learn more about the Middle College program at two upcoming community information nights, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15 and

Wednesday, Feb. 22 in the Jefferson cafeteria.

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