

**Report of the Commission  
on Sexual Orientation  
and the Law**

**Thomas P. Gill, Chair  
Morgan Britt  
L. Ku'umeaaloha Gomes  
Lloyd James Hochberg, Jr.  
Nanci Kreidman  
Marie A. "Toni" Sheldon  
Bob Stauffer**

**December 8, 1995**



# Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law

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*Thomas P. Gill, Chairperson*  
*Lloyd James Hochberg, Jr.*  
*Robert H. Stauffer*

*Morgan Britt*  
*Nanci Kreidman*

*L. Ku'umeaaloha Gomes*  
*Marie A. "Toni" Sheldon*

October 18, 1995

Thomas P. Coleman, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Spectrum Insitute  
P. O. Box 65756  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Thank you for agreeing to appear before the Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law at our October 25 meeting, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Senate Majority Caucus Room, Room 605, 235 S. Beretania Street. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the Commission to hear a variety of positions and opinions relating to the third of three tasks assigned to it by the legislature in Act 5, Session Laws of 1995. The first task was to examine the legal and economic benefits extended to married couples but not to same-sex couples. The second task was to examine substantial public policy reasons to extend or not to extend such benefits in part or in total to same-sex couples. The item for discussion on the October 25 agenda reads:

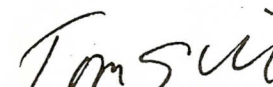
"(3) Recommend appropriate action which may be taken by the legislature to extend such benefits to same-sex couples."

We hope you will be able to brief the Commission as to the positive and negative aspects of different types of legislation that the Commission could present to the legislature. If you wish to submit a memorandum or other written materials on these points it would be helpful to the Commission. There may also be questions from members of the Commission but we will try to keep your portion of the discussion within the limited ten-minute time period.

After the various resource witnesses, including yourself, have made their presentations, the Commission will hear testimony from the general public or other persons or groups who wish to put their positions or opinions on the record. The official notice and agenda of the meeting is enclosed for your reference. Enclosed is a draft of a proposed domestic partnership law that has been distributed to the Commission members and may be of interest to you.

Please call me or Pamela Martin at the Legislative Reference Bureau, at 587-0666, if you have any problems, questions, or need further information. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas P. Gill  
Chairperson

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