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# PRESS RELEASE

## Broad Based Coalition Files Referendum to Overturn SB 5688

**Bellevue, May 5, 2009:** A coalition of faith based and conservative organizations and leaders have filed a referendum to overturn SB 5688.

It has become clear that although SB 5688 was presented as a Domestic Partners Expansion of benefits, it is in fact gay marriage--lacking only the word marriage.

[The Seattle Times editorial board is calling for homosexual marriage in Washington](#), based on the passage of SB 5688, affirming that the bill is "marriage".

Our recent polling survey indicates that a majority of Washington voters oppose same-sex marriage.

Gary Randall, president of Faith and Freedom Network, a faith based organization that informs and activates concerned citizens on both the state level and the national level, has been asked to provide leadership for the coalition and be the primary spokesman to the press.

Larry Stickney, president of Washington Values Alliance, will organize the signature gathering effort to place the referendum on the November ballot.

This is both a referendum campaign and a statement of unity within the faith community. The following organizations and individuals are on the Steering Committee:

Washington Eagle Forum - Cindy Honcoop  
Washington Values Alliance - Larry Stickney  
Faith and Freedom Network - Gary Randall  
Christian Coalition - Rick Forcier  
Watchman Ministries - Tim Taylor  
YWAM & US Renewal - Ron Boehme  
Antioch Bible Church - Ken Hutcherson  
National Day of Prayer - Katherine Cassady  
Concerned Citizens Coalition  
Facts for Freedom - Jim Galbraith  
Senators Dan Swecker and Val Stevens  
Representatives Matt Shea, Jim McCune, Brad Klippert, and former Representative  
John Ahern  
Dr. Bruce Craswell  
Dr. Bryant Adams  
Pastor Rick Long, Atonement Free Lutheran Church  
Pastors Roy and Valerie Hartwell, Rivers of Glory Church  
Washington Opposed to Pro-Homosexual Policies  
Pastor Gary and Annetta Small  
Concerned Citizens of Washington State – Patty Burgess  
Stephen Pidgeon, Esquire, Decalogos International

In addition, there are over 100,000 Washington State residents pledged to help in this campaign.

A number of state lawmakers support the effort and several have taken a leadership role in the campaign. Senator Dan Swecker, Representatives Matt Shea and Jim McCune now serve on the Faith and Freedom PAC board and the leadership committee. Senator Val Stevens and a number of others have also pledged their support.