



Mayor Richard Bloom

for California State Assembly 2012: Fighting for our Future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Richard Bloom
for Assembly 2012
c/o Pat Bradford Consulting
606 North Larchmont Blvd,
Ste. 201
Los Angeles, CA 90004

Media Release

Contact: Bloom Campaign
Phone: (424) BLOOM12 (256-6612)

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Mayor Richard Bloom Joins Mayors from Across the Country in “Mayors for the Freedom to Marry” Launch

Mayor Richard Bloom, along with *Republican Jerry Sanders of San Diego, Democrats Thomas Menino of Boston and Antonio Villaraigosa of Los Angeles and Independent Michael Bloomberg of New York, pledge their support for the cause*

Santa Monica—January 20- Mayor Richard Bloom of Santa Monica joined over 70 mayors from across the country in the launch of the bipartisan *Mayors for the Freedom to Marry*, a campaign to ensure that all loving, committed couples - including gay and lesbian couples - are able to share in marriage.

Mayor Bloom joins mayors from cities—large and small—with diverse geographic, ethnic and political backgrounds who have a common goal: to secure the freedom to marry and uphold equal rights for all citizens.

“Santa Monica is the home to many loving gay and lesbian couples who are in committed, long-term relationships that contribute to our communities,” Mayor Bloom said. “Cities that celebrate and cultivate diversity are the places where creative people and ideas can thrive. They are the places where today’s entrepreneurs are most likely to build the businesses of tomorrow. Allowing same-sex couples to marry enhances our ability to build this kind of environment, which is good for all of us.”

Mayor Bloom’s support for LGBT rights is longstanding as he has been a supporter of same sex marriage for decades and recently succeeded in passing the Santa Monica Same-Sex Benefits Ordinance that “is to prohibit discrimination from City contractors based on sexual orientation and marital status, bringing practices in line with non-discrimination laws. The ordinance requires contractors to apply the same health insurance and benefits that are offered to employee’s spouses to also be offered to employees with domestic partners.” At the time, Mayor Bloom stated, “I think it’s important for Santa Monica to be out there with other cities to set the example.”

”Today, a solid majority of Americans support the freedom to marry,” said Marc Solomon, National Campaign Director for Freedom to Marry. “Marriage is on the march in towns and cities across the nation, and these mayors will play an important role in advancing the cause. It’s more important than ever that we work together to end marriage discrimination and the leadership our mayors are showing is an important step in our campaign.”

Freedom to Marry is the campaign to win marriage nationwide. We are pursuing our Roadmap to Victory by working to win the freedom to marry in more states, grow the national majority for marriage, and end federal marriage discrimination. We partner with individuals and organizations across the country to end the exclusion of same-sex couples from marriage and the protections, responsibilities, and commitment that marriage brings.

About Mayor Richard Bloom

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom is running for the State Assembly in order to restore California to a national place of leadership in innovation, education, job creation, environmentalism and social justice. Richard has dedicated his life to family and community while compiling a profound record of accomplishment and advocacy. An acclaimed civic leader, Richard has also operated his own business as a family law attorney for over 30 years. Skilled at creating a dialogue between fractious parties and achieving consensus agreements, he has served as a Family Law Settlement Officer and a mediator for the Los Angeles Superior Court. A determined, idealistic and practical Councilmember and Mayor of Santa Monica, he has effectively promoted the economic vitality of the City, helping to guide and sustain Santa Monica even in current times of national and worldwide downturn, and has protected the health of children and the elderly, providing affordable housing and restoring the environment to the benefit of all. For over a decade, Richard has successfully championed the cause of excellence in our public schools. As a California Coastal Commissioner, Chair of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Chair of the Westside Cities Council of Governments, and board member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Richard has represented every corner of the Assembly district by protecting our irreplaceable environment, helping to find agreement on regional transportation projects and providing leadership on a range of other important issues.

For more information about Mayor Richard Bloom, please visit www.RichardBloom.com or email Richard2012@RichardBloom.com. For more information about Freedom to Marry, please visit www.freedomtomarry.org

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