



**The Washington Flyer
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The Education and Labor Committee Names New Ranking Member

This week, the Republican Steering Committee named [Representative John Kline](#) of Minnesota the [new Ranking member of the Education and Labor Committee](#). The Steering committee was put in charge of finding a predecessor to Rep. Buck McKeon, who stepped down from the position to become the top republican on the Armed Services committee. Rep. Kline, who has a close relationship with House minority leader John Boehner, was chosen to be the leading voice of republicans on the 28-member committee, over some of his prominent colleagues, Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rogers of Washington and Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina.

While the new ranking member, a retired Marine, has sponsored and introduced legislation that has comprised mostly of military affairs and worker's freedoms, he has also co-sponsored much legislation that would [encourage parents to have a choice](#) and a right in their child's education along with benefiting the family through tax credits. He has also co-sponsored legislation and allied with many conservatives to defend [traditional marriage](#), [the unborn](#), and the [rights of parents](#).

With universal pre-k, national standards, and federal takeover of education looming on the horizon, it is important that Representative John Kline, who now holds a leadership position, will stay true to his convictions and words and continue to act in a manner that will most effectively benefit the child, the parents, and the family as a whole.

The District Fights in the Defense of Marriage

As supporters and empathetic voices of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community have come to find, if the issue of gay marriage is presented to the people by way of vote or referendum, the result is a victory for 'traditional' marriage supporters, who make up the majority of U.S. citizens, and an obstacle for the overpowering LGBT agenda. Perhaps that is why the D.C. board of Elections and Ethics sided with the special interests groups when they [rejected an effort to hold a referendum](#) on the recent ruling of the legal recognition of same-sex 'marriages'. In a monumental case, the D.C. Council voted last month to recognize the unions as legal, leaving many to believe the LGBT agenda was set in motion once again, and it will not be before long that the Nation's capitol will also be allowing the legalization of the actual performances of these marriages. The Council's measure will go into effect after a thirty day review by Congress which expires on July 6th.

The District decision has brought about national coverage due to its unique position in which the U.S. Congress may become directly involved. Congressman Paul Broun of Georgia introduced [H. J. Res. 54](#), a resolution condemning the council's actions, and if passed through both houses of Congress and signed by the President by July 6th would essentially overturn the council's measure. Congressman Jim Jordan has also introduced [H.R. 2608](#), which would define marriage in the District as a union between one man and one woman, and would essentially stop any further actions taken by the Council to redefine marriage.

The Alliance Defense Fund, who is standing on behalf of traditional marriage along with the Stand4Marriage Coalition, has [appealed the Board's decision](#) to reject a referendum to the D.C. Superior Court.

ACTION: Please contact your [Congressman](#) and ask them to support H. J. Res. 54 and H.R. 2608, the DC Defense of Marriage Act.

"Hate" Crimes in the Senate

While the Senate prepares for the Department of Defense Reauthorization, and Health Care reform looms in the air, top Democrat leader, Senator Harry Reid held a [press conference](#) this week on the necessity to pass “hate” crimes legislation, and a vote is expected to come before the Senate soon. The cry to pass the legislation comes simultaneously as the U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a resolution titled, “[Equality and Civil Rights for Gay and Lesbian Americans](#),” which supports provisions for “same-sex” marriages, along with the Employee Non-Discrimination Act, and the “hate” crimes legislation. The conference consisted of less than 15% of the nation’s mayors with 75% of those mayors presiding in states which have documented state laws or statutes protecting traditional marriage. Not only did these mayors undermine their own state laws but less than half of the nation’s mayors decided to promote the GLBT agenda by passing this resolution on behalf of all mayors.

President Obama also gave the agenda momentum when he [signed a memorandum](#) which allows federal employees to receive benefits for their same-sex partners. While signing the memorandum, [the President stated:](#)

Extending equal benefits to the same-sex partners of Federal employees is the right thing to do. It is also sound economic policy. Many top employers in the private sector already offer benefits to the same-sex partners of their employees; those companies recognize that offering partner benefits helps them compete for and retain the brightest and most talented employees. The Federal Government is at a disadvantage on that score right now, and change is long overdue.

The President also called for a repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) stating,

But this Presidential Memorandum is just a start. Unfortunately, my Administration is not authorized by existing Federal law to provide same-sex couples with the full range of benefits enjoyed by heterosexual married couples. That's why I stand by my long-standing commitment to work with Congress to repeal the so-called Defense of Marriage Act. It's discriminatory, it interferes with States' rights, and it's time we overturned it.

Between the President’s Memorandum and the resolution passed by the U.S. Mayors Conference this week, it is clear to see the direction in which the administration, congress, and local politicians are headed. While these politicians adhere to special interests groups, it is equally important and dually noted that history shows where the majority of Americans stand on the issue of homosexuality and the “rights” they demand. However, if the voice of Americans is not expressed loudly, the freedoms and liberties that Americans enjoy on a daily basis will be taken away in the name of “equality,” “tolerance,” and “non-discrimination.”

ACTION: Please Contact your [Senators](#) and urge them to Oppose “Hate” Crimes legislation along with any efforts to Repeal DOMA.

In Case You Missed It:

[PBS to Phase out Religious Programming](#)

[Olive Garden Cancels Advertisements on David Letterman's Late Night Show](#)

[San Francisco Officials Say Calling Church 'Hateful,' 'Callous' serves 'Secular' Purpose](#)

[ABC: Obama's Healthcare Infomercial?](#)