



## Big gay groups: Do marry, don't sue

By Rex Wockner  
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Leading national gay organizations have issued a strongly worded advisory all but demanding that same-sex couples who visit California to get married not file any lawsuits seeking recognition of their marriages in their home states.

The document also strongly urges married same-sex couples not to sue for federal recognition of their marriages.

The lengthy document was issued June 10 by Lambda Legal, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Human Rights Campaign, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, Equality Federation, Freedom To Marry, and the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**.

"Don't go suing right away," the groups said. "Most lawsuits will likely set us all back."

"One thing couples shouldn't do is just sue the federal government or, if they are from other states, go sue their home state or their employer to recognize their marriage or open up the health plan," the advisory continued. "Pushing the federal government before we have a critical mass of states recognizing same-sex relationships or suing in states where the courts aren't ready is likely to get us bad rulings. Bad rulings will make it much more difficult for us to win marriage, and will certainly make it take much longer."