

Citizens lobby elected leaders

EqualityNC holds successful Day of Action

by Matt Comer • Q-Notes staff

RALEIGH — Statewide LGBT advocacy group EqualityNC says this year's Day of Action on March 24 in Raleigh attracted a record number of participants. More than 200 LGBT and straight ally North Carolinians

Boseman told *Q-Notes* that she believes she'll have the votes to pass the bill with the enumerated categories protecting LGBT students and others, which were stripped out of the bill passed by the Senate last session. She expects the bill will come up for consideration after the Senate has handed over the state budget to the House.

The couple hundred Day of Action participants met with elected officials through the morning. *Q-Notes* was able to sit in on a couple of those meetings.

In a meeting with constituents, House Republican Leader, Rep. Paul Stam (R-Wake) said he was opposed to including enumerated categories protecting LGBT students in the anti-bullying bill. He said the bill should simply say all bullying is prohibited.



gathered at the Legislative Building to lobby elected officials on several issues less than a month after thousands of anti-gay activists from hundreds of churches across the state gathered at the site for a rally to "defend traditional marriage."

The statewide lobbying and education group organized the Day of Action to push support for the anti-bullying bill, a comprehensive sex education bill, employment non-discrimination, repeal of the state's unconstitutional Crimes Against Nature statute and a hate crimes bill. The group's members and supporters also sought to persuade officials to stand against an anti-LGBT, anti-family marriage amendment currently assigned to committees inside the state's Senate and House.

Top among the group's priorities this session is the anti-bullying bill, the School Violence Prevention Act. The legislation is being sponsored by Sen. Julia Boseman (D-New Hanover) in the Senate and Rep. Rick Glazier in the House. Boseman is North Carolina's only openly gay or lesbian elected official in the General Assembly.



Winston-Salem resident and 2008 N.C. House candidate Wade Boyles (left) with his partner Scott Waybright attended the Day of Action and met with former electoral opponent Rep. Dale Folwell (R-Forsyth).

Stam also said he favored the anti-gay constitutional marriage amendment because same-sex relationships "threaten the well-being of children" and that those relationships are "not a good environment in which to raise children."

Other media outlets and bloggers, including Durham's Pam Spaulding (PamsHouseBlend.com) also participated

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THE CC SPRING HAS SPRUNG

SHOW LINE-UP

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH

ARABIA KNIGHT ADDAMS,
CONNIE CANE,
CANDIS COX

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH

BREYANNAH ALLURE,
JASMINE JAMES,
EMERALD STEVENS

THE NIGHTLY LINE-UP

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT
OPEN MIC WITH RICE & PRICE
\$1 bottled Bud Light and
\$1.50 Yuengling

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT
PAJAMA NIGHT
See what pajamas can get
you from the bartender!
FREE POOL ALL NIGHT LONG
\$1.00 Well Drinks

EVERY WED. NIGHT
COLLEGE NIGHT
THE CC DIVAS EVERY WEEK
\$1.49 Domestic Bottled Beer

EVERY THUR. NIGHT
HOUSE MUSIC & HIP HOP
Featuring DJ SEDRICK -
The House Mother of DC

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
LATIN NIGHT

EVERY SAT. NIGHT
#1 DANCE NIGHT
With DJ Brian

EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT
\$1.75 Cape Cods and Screws
\$2.00 Blue Moon Draft

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