

# McDonald Amendment Deleted <sup>3</sup>

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee has deleted the anti-gay "McDonald amendment" from the Legal Services appropriation legislation, H R. 7584.

A motion by Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D-Arizona) to delete the amendment passed by a voice vote, apparently by a 6-2 margin.

Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-NV), author of the anti-gay "Family Protection Act", and New Right Sen. Jake Garn (R-UT) supported retention of the McDonald amendment in the Senate bill.

Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT), who is the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee and is also a co-sponsor of S. 2081 (the gay fair employment bill), supported the motion to delete the amendment.

Steve Endean, executive director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, who has been coordinating strategy for the Senate fight, said, "We are firmly convinced that the origin of this anti-gay amendment is a New Right strategy to force a roll-call vote in this election year. It is likely that the amendment will be re-introduced on the floor of the Senate."

The GRNL has sent a "Congressional Action Alert" to 16,000 targeted in its constituent network. The purpose of the Alert, which includes two postcards to be sent to the Senators, is to mobilize constituent pressure.

The GRNL said that constituent pressure is the key to a successful legislative strategy.

"As long as Members of the House and Senate believe that their constituents oppose justice for gays, and that a pro-justice position is dangerous politically, we are going to end up on the short end of these votes," Endean said.

To become a part of the constituent network, send a postcard or letter saying "make me part of your constituent network." Congressional Action Alerts are sent in discreet envelopes. Write:

GRNL  
PO Box 1892  
Washington, DC 20013

To send a letter to your Senator, write:

Sen. \_\_\_\_\_  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

## ASA Passes Pro-gay Resolutions

At its annual business meeting held in New York recently, the American Sociological Association passed a set of resolutions condemning discrimination against lesbians and gay males, according to Gay Community News.

The association said it "firmly opposed the discriminatory policy of the United States Government which excludes lesbians and gay men from entering or immigrating to the United States."

It urged that the Secretary of State's order of October 1979 that lesbians and gay males be denied entry status be revoked; that the head of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) order an end to harassment of lesbians and gay males at border points; and that the sections of the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act barring entry to lesbians and gay males be repealed by the Congress.

It also urged that the President "direct that there be no discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation by any branch of the United States government."

The association also said that denial by universities of students' rights to form lesbian and gay

student organizations on campus "is inimical to the kind of environment necessary for effective conduct of social science education and research," and condemned any university that refuses to allow the formation of a gay students' association on campus.

## Rita Mae Brown Opens Forum

Rita Mae Brown, lesbian feminist and popular author, will be speaking at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill to open the Carolina Forum 1980-81 series.

The presentation will be held on Wed., Oct. 8 at 8 pm, and is free to the general public.

Brown's first novel, Rubyfruit Jungle, has been called "the single most incendiary novel to have emerged from the women's movement," by New Times.

Her latest novel, Six of One, is a semi-autobiographical story of three generations of strong, passionate, life-affirming women in a small town on the Mason-Dixon line.

Her lecture will include readings from her works, and her thoughts on the relation of art and politics.