

From: RepLarryBrown@aol.com [mailto:RepLarryBrown@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 3:23 PM
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HPWard6@aol.com
Cc: House@ncgop.org
Subject: Re: FW: Drumroll, please!

I hope all the queers are thrilled to see him. I am sure there will be a couple legislative fruitloops there in the audience.

From: Paul Stam [mailto:paulstam@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 3:07 PM

To: 'Avila'; 'Barnhart'; 'Blackwell'; 'Blackwood'; 'Blust'; 'Boles'; 'Brown'; 'Brubaker'; 'Burr'; 'Burris-Floyd'; 'Cleveland'; 'Current'; 'Daughtry'; 'Dockham'; 'Dollar'; 'Faircloth'; 'Folwell'; 'Frye'; 'Gillespie'; 'Grady'; 'Guice'; 'Gulley'; 'Hilton'; 'Holloway'; 'Horn'; 'Howard'; 'Hurley'; 'Iler'; 'Ingle'; 'Johnson'; 'Justice'; 'Justus'; 'Killian'; 'Langdon'; 'Lewis'; 'McComas'; 'McCormick'; 'McElraft'; 'McGee'; 'McGrady'; 'Mills'; 'Moore'; 'Neumann'; 'Randleman'; 'Rhyne'; 'Sager'; 'Samuelson'; 'Setzer'; 'Shepard'; 'Stam'; 'Starnes'; 'Steen'; 'Stevens'; 'Tillis'; 'Torbett'; 'West'; 'Wiley'

Cc: 'House'

Subject: FW: Drumroll, please!

From: Ian Palmquist, Equality NC Foundation

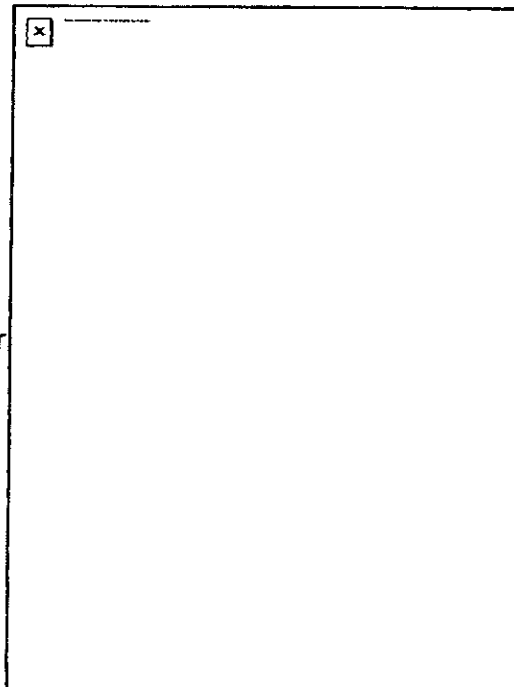
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 2:36 PM

Dear Thomas,

I'm excited to announce the recipient of Equality NC Foundation's 2010 Legislative Leadership Award. Every year at the Equality Gala, we recognize one legislator who has gone above and beyond. Someone who isn't just an ally; someone who is a champion.

I hope you'll join us this year on Saturday, November 13, as I present the award to North Carolina House Speaker Joe Hackney. He's been a strong leader in the struggle for equal rights since long before he became Speaker. Back in 1999, he helped us secure our first floor vote on a pro-equality bill. And although that bill didn't pass, he didn't stop working.

As Speaker, Joe Hackney has demonstrated real leadership



time and again. Every year the right wing pushes the marriage discrimination constitutional amendment. And every year, Joe Hackney says no. He's put himself on the line to keep that attack on our community bottled up. It's thanks to his leadership in the House and Senator Banight's leadership in the Senate that we proudly remain the only Southern state that has not written this kind of discrimination into our constitution.

He's also been a critical ally on HIV/AIDS prevention and care. In 2009, he helped win passage of the Healthy Youth Act, finally tossing out the failed abstinence-only sex education curriculum and replacing it with a comprehensive, medically accurate program. And this year, at a time when legislators were looking high and low for places to cut programs to balance the state budget, he fought to secure an additional \$14.1 million in funding to provide low-income people living with HIV with life-saving medications--more than doubling the state contribution to this critical program to ensure that those most in need were served.

Over the last three years, the Speaker worked closely with Equality NC and our coalition partners to finally do something to make our schools safer for all students. When it came time to vote on the School Violence Prevention Act last year, Joe Hackney personally secured the last few votes we needed for passage, and then cast the tie-breaking vote that secured this historic victory.

I can't wait to celebrate Speaker Hackney's incredible leadership at the Gala, and I hope you'll make plans now to join me. [Click here to learn more about the event and register to attend.](#)

For Equality,

Ian

P.S. The Gala is our largest annual fundraiser, providing critical funding for our work to win hearts and minds and secure policies that make a real difference in the lives of LGBT North Carolinians. You won't want to miss this celebration of Speaker Joe Hackney and our success, and stay tuned for our next announcement of our very first Equality Champions!

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