In Gay-Marital Amendment Spat, Tolerant Give More Than Intolerant

• Just Two Donors Supplied 90 percent of the Money Backing the Amendment.

Eight political committees seeking to influence a proposed state constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages reported that they had raised more than $500,000 one month before the November 8 election.

PACs opposing the amendment raised more than three times the amount reported by PACs supporting "Proposition 2." The PACs collectively have spent three-fifths of all that they raised to influence voters.

Amendment opponents have run a much more grassroots campaign, itemizing almost 2,000 checks with an average size of less than $200. In contrast, amendment supporters itemized just 9 checks from a total of just seven donors. These checks averaged more than $13,523 apiece.

Two big donors--San Antonio's James Leininger and Houston's Bob Perry--supplied 90 percent of all the money raised to support the amendment.

Leininger founded a company that makes high-tech hospital beds (Kinetic Concepts) and later launched organic milk producer Promised Land Dairy. Bob Perry of Bob Perry Homes bankrolled Swift Boat Veterans for Truth's attack ads against John Kerry. He is Texas' No. 1 political donor.

Gay-Marital-Spat PACs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAC</th>
<th>Prop. 2 Position</th>
<th>Contribution Amount</th>
<th>Expenditure Amount</th>
<th>Cash On Hand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Nonsense In November</td>
<td>Against</td>
<td>$160,746</td>
<td>$85,680</td>
<td>$74,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote Against the Amendment</td>
<td>Against</td>
<td>$159,695</td>
<td>$159,695</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texans FOR Marriage</td>
<td>For</td>
<td>$108,324</td>
<td>$20,00</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Nonsense in 2006 PAC</td>
<td>Against</td>
<td>$42,219</td>
<td>$29,032</td>
<td>$13,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonewall Democrats of Dallas PAC</td>
<td>Against</td>
<td>$27,463</td>
<td>$23,081</td>
<td>$6,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on the Family Texas Marriage Amendment</td>
<td>For</td>
<td>$3,213</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texans United</td>
<td>Against</td>
<td>$1,360</td>
<td>$523</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Marriage Alliance</td>
<td>For</td>
<td>$10,175</td>
<td>$10,200</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td></td>
<td>$513,735</td>
<td>$328,211</td>
<td>$94,471+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data from October 11, 2005 "30-Day-Out" reports filed with the Texas Ethics Commission. Three pre-existing PACs ("No Nonsense in 2006" and "Stonewall Democrats of Dallas" and "Texas Marriage Alliance") also include data going back as far as January 1, 2005, where applicable.
Other large pro-amendment donors include the affiliated Free Market Foundation and Focus on the Family, headed by Colorado evangelical James Dobson. Dobson recently made headlines over U.S. Supreme Court nominee Harriet Miers. After a conversation with presidential advisor Karl Rove, Dobson reassured other conservatives that Miers would battle abortion from the bench.

Speaking about abortion in a radio broadcast last month, Dobson said, "When you know some of the things that I know--that I probably shouldn't know--you will understand why I have said, with fear and trepidation, that I believe Harriet Miers will be a good justice."

Another donor, Florida-based Design4 Marketing Communications produces ads for conservative Christian groups. These include controversial television spots about "reformed" former homosexuals that the firm produced in 2000 for Americans for Truth About Homosexuality.

Denver's Tim Gill was the top donor opposing the amendment. Gill is the openly gay founder of Quark software. He also founded a foundation that supports gay causes. Gill and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force supplied almost 41 percent of all the anti-amendment money. Other national and Texas-based gay rights groups were this side's next-largest donors.

The political consulting firm of former Democratic state Representative Glen Maxey, who is coordinating opposition to Prop. 2, was another significant donor opposing the amendment. After Maxey got the Texas legislature to expand children's health insurance coverage in 1999, this openly gay lawmaker said that then-Governor Bush, who had opposed Maxey on the issue, walked onto the House floor to congratulate him. In an account that a gubernatorial spokesperson disavowed, Maxey said that Bush told him, "I value you as a person, and I value you as a human being, and I want you to know, Glen, that what I say publicly about gay people doesn’t pertain to you."

The PAC reports analyzed above do not reflect the political activities of the Texas Restoration Project (TRP), a new group run by ministers who seek to register 300,000 parishioners as new voters. The Texas Freedom Network, which advocates the separation of church and state, filed a complaint this month urging the Texas Ethics Commission to investigate allegations that TRP is improperly promoting Prop. 2 without registering as a PAC. Rev. Laurence White, who heads TRP, has said that his group does not endorse candidates or ballot initiatives. TRP and Prop. 2 have enjoyed high-profile support from Texas Governor Rick Perry--who has worked harder than other recent Texas governors to project the image of a non-alternative lifestyle.

### All Itemized Pro-Amendment Contributors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Leininger</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Perry</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Market Foundation</td>
<td>Plano</td>
<td>$5,474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus on the Family</td>
<td>Colorado Sprgs</td>
<td>$3,213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design4 Marketing Communications</td>
<td>Brandon, FL</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Houston Area Pastor Council</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheryl De Cordova</td>
<td>San Angelo</td>
<td>$75</td>
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### Top Anti-Amendment Contributors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tim Gill</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Gay &amp; Lesbian Task Force</td>
<td>D.C.</td>
<td>$59,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Campaign</td>
<td>D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of TX</td>
<td>Austin</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens for Equality</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M E Starks</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen P Zeligson</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX AFL-CIO State COPE PAC</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glen Maxey Consulting</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$4,080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion S. Friedman</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas G Duckworth</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>$3,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>J David Hardt</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>$3,050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Connell</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX Equity PAC</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
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<td>Jay K Willems</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$2,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Adler</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay W Oppenheimer</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald L. Payette</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Jung</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gina Menicucci</td>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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