Jermstad, Sara

From: Asbjornson, Karen
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2003 10:25 AM
To: Jermstad, Sara; Jermstad, Sara
Subject: New Forward Contact Ownership and Assignment

Constituent: Maxine Assaf (176889)
N6840 Giebel Rd
Eldorado, WI 54932-9603

Email: richmax@execpc.com

Owner: Jermstad, Sara
Assigned: Jermstad, Sara
Summary: Curves

Issue:
Position:
Status: Pending
Contact Type: E-mail
Description: --Original Message-----
From: Maxine Assaf [mailto:richmax@execpc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2003 10:34 PM
To: Roessler, Carol
Subject: Re: Curves for Women

Hi,

Heres my address:

Maxine Assaf
N6840 Giebel Road
Eldorado, WI 54932

Maxine

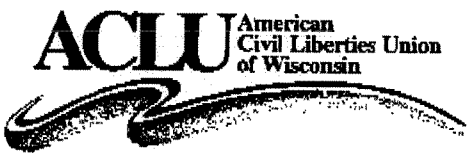
-----Original Message-----
From: Maxine Assaf [mailto:richmax@execpc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2003 8:21 PM
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Curves for Women

Hi,

I am writing to express my concern over men wanting to join Curves for Women. If I wanted to excercise with males, I would go to the Y or other

workout clubs. Today the machines are designed more for women. I love being able to work on all the machines and not feel inferior. Some clubs have machines that are not built for everyone. Curves doesn't have monster weights and numerous machines that my husband enjoys more for his workout, but I wouldn't chose. Curves for Women has a great variety of machines that keeps the fun in exercise. We can talk to others while cooling on the platform steps and work hard on the machines. And sometimes, even talk while working on the machines. Another great feature is I don't have to worry about my jealous husband complaining about men watching me. This is one less stress for me, and I can enjoy working out and feel comfortable with the ladies.

Thanks,
Maxine



FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

FAX # (414) 272-0182

TO: Sen. Roessler

DESTINATION FAX # 608-266.0423

FROM: Chris Ahmad

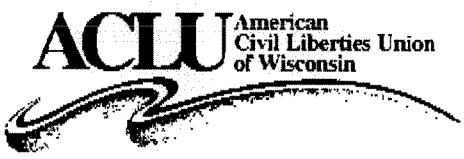
DATE: 3-17-03

TOTAL PAGES (Including cover page) 3

If you do not receive all of the pages or have a problem with the transmission please call (414) 272-4032 and ask for _____.

MESSAGE SB 24

207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5774
(414) 272-4032 • FAX (414) 272-0182
e-mail: Liberty@aclu-wi.org
http://www.aclu-wi.org



March 17, 2003

Senator Carol Roessler
Wisconsin State Senate
State Capitol -- Room 8 South
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Via Fax to 608.266.0423

Dear Senator Roessler:

I'm writing to ask you to reconsider your sponsorship of Senate Bill 24, the so-called Curves bill. Senate Bill 24 would allow fitness centers to operate and market themselves as exclusively for the use of women or men. While you may wish to address the concerns of some women, who may feel uncomfortable when men use the same fitness centers, this bill weakens the protections that women and men deserve under Wisconsin's anti-discrimination laws.

I'm sure that you know that in the past many laws were on the books that supposedly protected the "weaker sex," but these laws in reality denied women the right to manage their own money, to find family-sustaining employment, to belong to clubs where careers are advanced, to frequent businesses (such as restaurants) that preferred men, and to receive an equitable share of the benefits of government programs. While these laws purported to put women on a pedestal, they put women in a cage instead, as Justice Brennan noted.

The American Civil Liberties Union's Women's Rights Project under the leadership of Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the 1970s successfully argued that the Court should strike down many of these laws. The ACLU of Wisconsin in the 1972 had to go to federal court in Milwaukee to prevent Heinemann's restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue from excluding women from its "Men's Grill." The Court found that Heinemann's policy violated the equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

To paraphrase just one of the ACLU's arguments in these cases: when women are excluded or discriminated against because of their gender, it not only hurts them, it hurts us all. When businesses discriminate on the basis of sex or race, they perpetuate harmful stereotypes that divide us and deny us the benefits of a diverse, vigorous and just society.

It has been suggested that perhaps, these discriminating fitness centers could advertise their suitability or preference for one sex over the other, but still admit the less favored sex. The ACLU of Wisconsin urges you not to allow advertisements that put off men or

207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5774
(414) 272-4032 • FAX (414) 272-0182
e-mail: Liberty@aclu-wi.org
http://www.aclu-wi.org

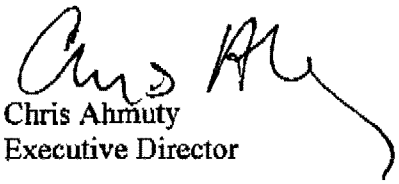
women from patronizing a center. Discrimination is not acceptable, just because the unwelcome party doesn't bother to present themselves where they are not welcome.

It may also be suggested that if this exception is appropriate for profit seeking businesses, then it is appropriate for non-profit organizations as well. This suggestion of course adds to harm that Senate Bill 24 already proposes. One doesn't have to raise the specter of a slippery slope, this is evidence of a further erosion of women's rights.

On behalf of ACLU members in Wisconsin, I ask you to reconsider your sponsorship of the ill-conceived bill and urge your Senate colleagues to drop this measure.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,



Chris Ahmuty
Executive Director

Jermstad, Sara

From: Roessler, Carol
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2003 11:10 AM
To: Block, Cindy
Subject: FW: CURVES

Hi Cindy,

Your constituent attached....

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

-----Original Message-----
From: Amy Glander [mailto:aglander@silicaappliance.com]
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2003 12:29 PM
To: Roessler, Carol
Subject: Re: CURVES

Hello! Sorry about that!
Amy Glander
375 E Main Street #8
Lomira, WI 53048
920-269-2136

> ----- Original Message -----
> **From:** Roessler, Carol
> **To:** Amy Glander
> **Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2003 9:15 AM
> **Subject:** RE: CURVES
>
> Thank you for your email.
>
> Due to the volume of emails I receive, I ask that all emails include a home address. This will ensure that my constituents receive the highest priority. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CAROL ROESSLER

State Senator

18th Senate District

-----Original Message-----
From: Amy Glander [mailto:aglander@silicaappliance.com]
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2003 8:40 AM
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: CURVES

Hello! I am writing in regards to the recent problems that have arisen in reference to Curves for Women. I have been a member of Curves of Fond du Lac for 2 months and can honestly say it is the best fitness facility I have ever belonged to. I have previously been a member at the YMCA as well as a small co-ed fitness facility in Mayville called Beach Club. These memberships were not long lived. However, due to the structure of Curves and the fact that it is all women, I foresee my membership being a new lifestyle.

What is the difference you may ask? Being in previous places has been very intimidating. I am not sexist however exercise is a very personal thing and being in a group format of supportive women who are not judging you makes working out enjoyable. In formats where "muscle" men have been working out next to me, I have felt very "little" and have often not even finished my memberships, just quit going.

I live in Lomira which is approximately 15 minutes from Fond du Lac, and the distance does not bother me a bit. I work out 3-4 times a week prior to coming to my full time job and it makes my day more enjoyable and keeps my energy level high.

PLEASE work at keeping Curves just the way it is.

Yours truly,

Amy Glander

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc.
600 Williamson Street, Ste. N-2
Madison, WI 53703
608-257-1516

March 17, 2003

Senator Carol Roessler
8 South State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Roessler:

My name is Lisa Macaulay and I am the Policy Specialist at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc. (WCASA) I am writing to you in regards to Senate Bill 24, which you introduced. It has been referred to as the "Curves Bill."

While we understand that women may feel, for safety reasons, the need and desire to be able to workout separately from men, we question whether there is a need to address this issue through legislation.

Members of our staff and membership have raised concerns over the unintended consequences this bill may have in the future. The language in SB24, if passed, could pave the way for women to be once again excluded from places of power. As written, SB24 would not prevent men from forming a "fitness club" and inviting only male legislators to join. They could re-create the old boys network. Women and minorities have fought long and hard to break through the glass ceiling. We would hate to see good intentioned legislation "brick over" that ceiling.

We ask that you reconsider passage of SB24. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 608-257-1516.

Sincerely,

Lisa Macaulay
Policy Specialist
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc.

Jermstad, Sara

From: Roessler, Carol
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2003 11:17 AM
To: 'Barb & Tom Lewis'
Subject: RE: Curves

Thank you for your email.

Due to the volume of emails I receive, I ask that all emails include a home address. This will ensure that my constituents receive the highest priority. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CAROL ROESSLER

State Senator

18th Senate Distric

-----Original Message-----
From: Barb & Tom Lewis [mailto:blewis0@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2003 10:18 AM
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us
Subject:

Dear Ms Roesler,
I love my CURVES. It has done wonders for me. I have been going to Curves for almost 2 years, and although I haven't done it for weight loss, I find that I am more flexible, my blood pressure has gone down, and my chloresteral is down. CURVES is a great place to go.
Thank you,
Barb Lewis

MAR 13 2003

Diane Lemke
N172 County Rd. S
Kewaskum, WI 53040

March 12, 2003

Senator Carol Roessler
Room 130 South, State Capitol
P. O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Carol,

I writing to ask and encourage your support of Senate Bill 24 regarding same sex for the Curves program. I am currently a member of Curves in Kewaskum and can feel and see the results of such a worthwhile program. Other women in our facility where I workout achieve great results and are encouraged by one another. men or women

Keeping Curves a same sex organization can offer services unique to women with a secure surrounding to work at goals and receive the support of women striving for their own levels of success.

Please keep the women of Curves on your platform and vote in support of Senate Bill 24.

Thank You,

Diane Lemke

Diane Lemke

Fantastic

Jermstad, Sara

From: Roessler, Carol
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2003 11:48 AM
AM
To: Jermstad, Sara
Subject: FW: women's health clubs

CR email

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

-----Original Message-----
From: Victory Lady Fitness Center [mailto:info@victoryladyfitnesscenter.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2003 10:12 AM
To: Roessler Carol
Subject: Re: women's health clubs

Dawn McDermid
3205 W. Grange Ave.
Greenfield, WI 53221

Karen Gabrielsen
14848 W. Mayflower Ct.
New Berlin, WI 53151

> ----- Original Message -----
> **From:** Roessler, Carol
> **To:** Victory Lady Fitness Center
> **Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2003 12:11 PM
> **Subject:** RE: women's health clubs
>
> Thank you for your email.
>
> Due to the volume of emails I receive, I ask that all emails include a home address. This will ensure that my constituents receive the highest priority. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CAROL ROESSLER

State Senator

18th Senate District

-----Original Message-----
From: Victory Lady Fitness Center [mailto:info@victoryladyfitnesscenter.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2003 9:33 AM
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: women's health clubs

Hi!
We read about the lawsuit involving Curve's and Charles Swayne. We are opertators of 2 ladies facilities in the Milwaukee area. What is the status of this situation? Thank you for your assistance.
Dawn McDermid
Karen Gabrielsen
VICTORY LADY FITNESS CENTERS

Verona Fitness Studio, Inc.
1025 North Edge Trail
Verona, WI 53593
608-848- ***MOVE*** (6683) Fax: 608-848-6684
"At VFS . . . ***We Move You***"

TO: IHRSA & SENATE COMITTEE ON HEALTH, CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AGING, LONG-TERM CARE —

NO PROTECTION FOR SINGLE-SEX HEALTH CLUBS !

THIS IS DISCRIMINATION PLAIN + SIMPLE. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL. IT IS NOT OK TO PERMIT THIS SEGREGATION ANYWHERE, ANYTIME. A "LITTLE" BIT OF DISCRIMINATION IS NOT OK!

I FEEL THIS IS A GIANT STEP BACKWARDS FOR ALL I HAVE WORKED FOR MY WHOLE LIFE - MY BACKROUND IN THE GIRLS + WOMENS SPORTS MOVEMENT HAS TAUGHT ME TO BE VERY SENSITIVE TO THIS ISSUE OF SEX SEGREGATION. THERE IS NO ARGUMENT OR JUSTIFICATION FOR THESE CLUBS TO BE WOMENS ONLY. I HAVE YET TO SEE ONE POINT MADE THAT ISN'T JUST PLAIN OLD DISCRIMINATION! (MAYBE A SIMPLE DRESS CODE WOULD BE A SIMPLE SOLUTION IN THESE CLUBS !!!)

NO EXCLUSION - SEGREGATION OR DISCRIMINATION

VOTE NO SUPPORT !

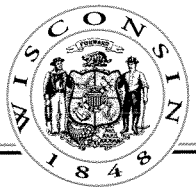
SINCERELY:
LAURA ROBERTS,
OWNER VERONA FITNESS STUDIO

Laura Roberts, B.S., M.A.
Owner & Certified Fitness Professional
Specializing in:
Functional Fitness & Health

Verona Fitness Studio, Inc.
1025 North Edge Trail, Verona, Wisconsin 53593
608-848-***MOVE*** (6683)
Prairie Oaks Retail Center, Highway M & Cross Country Rd.

Get Healthy ▶ Get Real

FEB 1 7 2003



State Senator Sheila Harsdorf

TO: Senate Chair Carol Roessler, Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long-Term Care

CC: Committee Members

RE: Testimony on Senate Bill 24

10th Senate District
Phone: 800.862.1092/608.266.7745
Fax: 608.267.0369

http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen10/sen10.html

P.O. Box 7882 ▪ State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882
Sen.Harsdorf@legis.state.wi.us

As a member of the Baldwin area Curves for Women fitness club, I was disturbed to learn of the discrimination lawsuit brought against the chain. I have struggled with my weight my entire life. I have belonged to "traditional" fitness clubs, but never felt I had the support or encouragement on a regular basis that I have with my more intimate Curves membership. Only at Curves have I started to see results with my weight loss. Only at Curves have I continued my membership. Only at Curves can I talk with women who are also struggling with weight and diet. Only at Curves do I feel safe to exercise – I'm not judged, criticized nor do I feel intimated by those who are more "fit" than myself.

Women work hard. We give ourselves to others every day. We take care of husbands, children, employers, friends, church members, relatives, aging parents, siblings – the list goes on and on. The person we are least likely to take care of is OURSELVES. Curves has created an environment that helps women care for ourselves in a low stress, low cost, low time commitment way. If Curves were to become co-ed it would lose the nurturing atmosphere that it has worked so hard to create.

My attendance at the Baldwin Curves has improved my self esteem, my health, my cholesterol, my weight, heart rate, and numerous other things. I don't believe Curves would have my support or membership if it was to become co-ed as my feelings about co-ed facilities are rather negative. The Curves machines are designed for women, the exercises are designed for women, the environment is designed for women. This is something I need for me.

I appreciate the philosophy of Curves and hope that you won't consider Curves discriminatory. Instead, Curves is creating an environment for women that fosters an "acceptable sense of privacy" to work out and become healthy. Please co-sponsor the bill being introduced by the Wisconsin Curves Association (WICA) which is attempting to have health clubs excluded from the WI Public Accommodation Law.

We need you to support this and keep Curves as a healthy option for women.

Thank you

Kris Finger

Woodville, WI

715-684-3338

Curves For Women should be for women only. The make up of Curves is to provide a better life style for women. The machines are designed and engineered for the woman's body. Other co-ed fitness centers are designed at a neutral level, which makes exercising difficult for women. A woman needs to adjust the machines to fit and sometimes will avoid machines because they are uncomfortable using them at co-ed fitness centers. I have used YMCA's and Wellness Centers that were co-ed and became unmotivated quickly due to this reason. By joining curves I am able to work out with comfort and continue to be motivated, because I can see results. Making Curves a co-ed fitness center would create animosity with its female members. With the way society is today and women have the higher risk of heart disease, Curves For Women is the cure!

Sherry DeLong
Human Resource Generalist
McMillan Electric Company
400 Best Road
Woodville WI 54028
Phone: 715-698-2488 ext. 7115
Fax: 715-698-2297