



**The Scottish
Parliament**

PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

Nick Henderson

By e-mail:

letusknow@lgbtnetwork.eu

3 March 2009

Dear Mr Henderson

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED PETITION PP677

I am writing to confirm that your petition—

Petition by Nick Henderson, on behalf of LGBT Network, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 to allow two persons of the same sex to register a civil marriage and a religious marriage if the relevant religious body consents

will be formally lodged with the Scottish Parliament on 10 March unless we hear from you to the contrary prior to that date.

Your petition will be considered by the Public Petitions Committee at its meeting on Tuesday 17 March. The meeting will be held in Committee Room 1, Edinburgh, and is scheduled to start at 2.00 pm.

The Convener, in consultation with the Committee, has indicated that you will not be required to give oral evidence to the Committee in support of your petition.

You are of course welcome to attend and observe proceedings from the Public Gallery. Alternatively, you may wish to watch the broadcast of the meeting on the internet (www.holyrood.tv/committee.asp) or to follow the

**Public Petitions Committee, TG.01, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh,
EH99 1SP**

**Tel: 0131 348 5186, Fax: 0131 348 5088, RNID Typetalk: 18001 0131 348
5186**

fergus.cochrane@scottish.parliament.uk
www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/index.htm

petitions progress from the information available on the Parliament's website. Please note the following information to assist you—

- You should book a seat in the Public Gallery through the Scottish Parliament's Visitor Centre by telephone (0131 348 5200), by textphone (0845 270 0152) or by email to sp.bookings@scottish.parliament.uk. Tickets can be booked up to 7 days in advance of the meeting.
- The agenda and papers for the meeting will be available on the Parliament's website:
(www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/meetings.htm)
from the Friday prior to the meeting.
- The Committee meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and can be viewed at www.holyrood.tv/committee.asp.
- A substantially verbatim transcript of proceedings will be produced following the meeting and will be published on the Parliament's website (www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/meetings.htm).
- MSPs who are not members of the Committee may attend the meeting to seek to say a few words about the petition. It is however at the discretion of the Committee Convener whether to allow a non-Committee member to speak.

I will, of course, advise you in writing of the outcome of the Committee's consideration of your petition following the meeting.

In the meantime, to assist the administration of your petition I would be grateful if you would note and, where necessary respond to, the points in the attached Administrative Information. Please also complete and return the attached Equal Opportunities Form.

I look forward to your response on these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Fergus Cochrane

FERGUS D. COCHRANE
Clerk to the Committee

**Public Petitions Committee, TG.01, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh,
EH99 1SP**

**Tel: 0131 348 5186, Fax: 0131 348 5088, RNID Typetalk: 18001 0131 348
5186**

fergus.cochrane@scottish.parliament.uk
www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/index.htm