

# Enchante' News

## A Transgender Newsletter

Vol. 2002-12

<http://florida.enchante.tripod.com>

December 2002

### Florida Driver's Licenses and Birth Certificates

September of 2001 began controversy regarding when and how drivers license's gender marker may be changed. Currently it will only be modified with a certified letter from a GRS/SRS surgeon stating that you have had surgery and are now legally of the new gender.

As of October of 2002, Florida will now amend Florida Birth Certificates to reflect your current gender and name change after receiving GRS (Gender Reassignment Surgery). Previously they have refused to make any modifications to birth certificates leaving those born in Florida in a lurch.

Please thank the political advocates who have worked so hard for these changes. A few of the groups who fight for us are: Equality Florida, FORGE, NTAC, LGBT, TGNI, and GenderPAC and of course the ACLU.

### Hate Crimes and Discrimination

The year 2002 has seen a growth of hate crimes across the country. In many areas there is no legislation to protect the transgendered.

Pennsylvania will become the fifth state to enact hate crimes laws that include the transgendered, joining California, Missouri, Minnesota, and Vermont. Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia currently have hate crimes legislation that protects gay, lesbian and bisexual people.

There is much discrimination in general and in the work place. Of the GLBT community 41% report that they encounter one form or another of discrimination in the workplace. We must all work together to combat this and make this world a safer place to live and work.

### A letter from the Editor

Many of my friends have now joined the club of Post-Op transexuals, including myself. We have survived toils and burdens we encountered during our transition. We have faced many fears and tested the love and patience

of family and friends. I for one feel I am a better person for it. But it's not over yet. Now we face a new future, a new us. In this I wish everyone happy holidays and best wishes for the new year to come. Thank You all !!!