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## **Open Letter to Steve Neal: Long Beach Democratic Club**

### **Presidents ask Neal to clarify or recant his statements regarding same-sex marriage.**

Dear Mr. Neal,

In your recent interview with the Long Beach Business Journal you were asked about your positions regarding the Equal Benefits Ordinance for the City of Long Beach as well as your views on Proposition 8. You are quoted as saying that same-sex marriage is...” instituted by God...” and you “don’t think man has the ability or the right to change that.” You also refer to the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Community as “a lifestyle that people choose...” We respectfully ask you to clarify or recant these anti-LGBT comments.

We as leaders in the Democratic Party representing the City of Long Beach are deeply disturbed by these comments. As a party we stand for equality on all levels regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation. Long Beach is home to one of the largest LGBT populations, and as a potential Councilmember, you would be representing them in every vote you cast. We hope that we can work together in the future on these issues and ask that you will stand with us to fight the inequality and injustice that our LGBT brothers and sisters face every single day.

Democratically Yours,

Stephanie Loftin,  
President  
Long Beach Lambda  
Democratic Club

Taylor Honrath,  
President  
Long Beach  
Democratic Club

Bianca Villanueva,  
President  
Long Beach Young  
Democrats Club

Hon. Betty Karnette,  
President  
Long Beach Democratic  
Women’s Study Club

CC: The Long Beach Business Journal

CC: The District Weekly

CC: The Press Telegram

CC: The LB Report

CC: The LB Post

CC: Pride at Work