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Massachusetts *(from page 1)*

give a boost to the fight for federal gay rights legislation. In the Congress, H.R. 655, filed January 24, 1989, would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual and affectional preference. The bill has nine sponsors in the Senate and 61 co-sponsors in the House.

"Gay civil rights is perhaps the last frontier of the great civil rights struggles of the twentieth century," continued LaFontaine of the Coalition. "A community that has been silent and invisible is rapidly transforming itself into a surging political force. The dream we've realized here in Massachusetts may be echoed in state after state in the very near future."

[Editor's note: Massachusetts Governor, Michael Dukakis signed the gay civil rights bill into law on Wednesday, November 15th. Since that time there has been a conservative effort to place a referendum on the next election ballot to repeal the

ACT UP/LA Targets Prudential Insurance Company

ACT UP/LA (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power/Los Angeles) is participating in a nation-wide effort to demand that the insurance industry end discriminatory practices and provide full health care coverage for the insured. They would like to hear from individuals who have experienced any AIDS or HIV-related problems with insurance companies and are particularly interested in hearing from Prudential Insurance Company policyholders.

Difficulties that have been reported include: exorbitant premium increases; refusal to pay for prescribed treatments; declaring all HIV-related claims as ineligible for coverage, claiming that HIV is a "pre-existing condition."

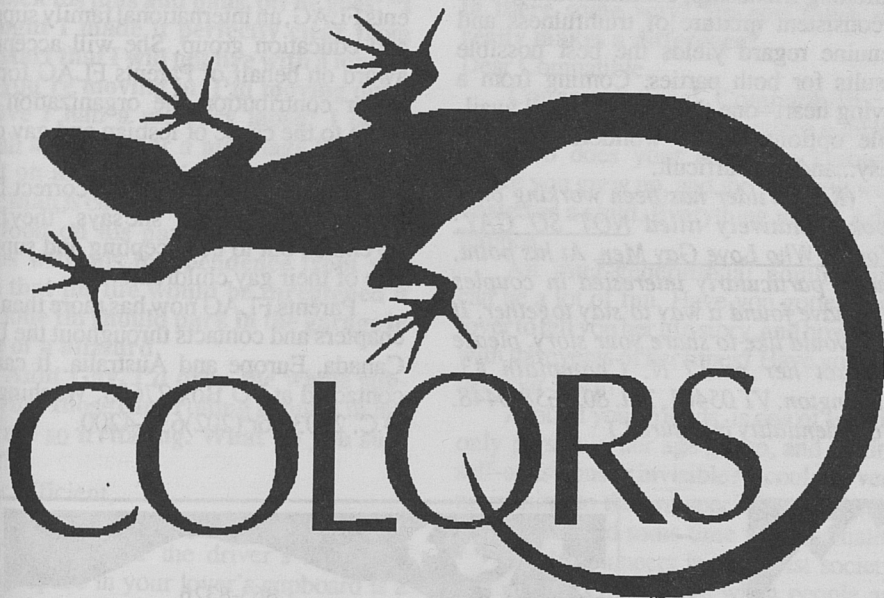
All replies will be held in strictest confidence, although individuals may be asked to speak out publicly against the abuses of the insurance industry. Please write to ACT UP/LA Insurance Committee, PO Box 26601, Los Angeles, CA 90026 or call Richard (213)838-3260, Jake (213)851-2492 or Neil (213)650-7590.

VIDEO AGAINST AIDS

Downstairs Video has just received a new 3-video series entitled VIDEO AGAINST AIDS. Distributed by Video Data Bank of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the series consists of twenty-two individual pieces. These pieces are united in their passion to combat ignorance and to tolerate no opposition in the battle for an AIDS cure.

VIDEO AGAINST AIDS is not a work one would see on mainstream television. The pieces range from lyrical and upbeat music-videos to reflective memorials of those who've died from AIDS.

VIDEO AGAINST AIDS is available for rental from Downstairs Video and arrangements may be made for rental by mail for those who live at a distance. For more information, contact Downstairs Video at 26 Main St., Montpelier, VT 05602 or call



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