

# A Progressive & Responsive Step Forward

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do not qualify as dependent(s) of the employee, under Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code, the cost of providing coverage for them will be considered taxable income to the employee and subject to tax withholding," as stated on the benefits application form.

Vermont has once again taken the national lead in recognizing what defines a family in the socially aware '90s. "This really shows that the work we started doing to ensure that all Vermonters have access to truly equal rights is working," said Keith Goslant, the governor's liaison to the gay and lesbian community. "I'm not getting more under the law (than anyone else)", he added. While only providing coverage for employees of the state of Vermont and their domestic partners, it can still be considered "a progressive, responsive step forward to universal coverage for everyone," said union director Thomas Whitney.

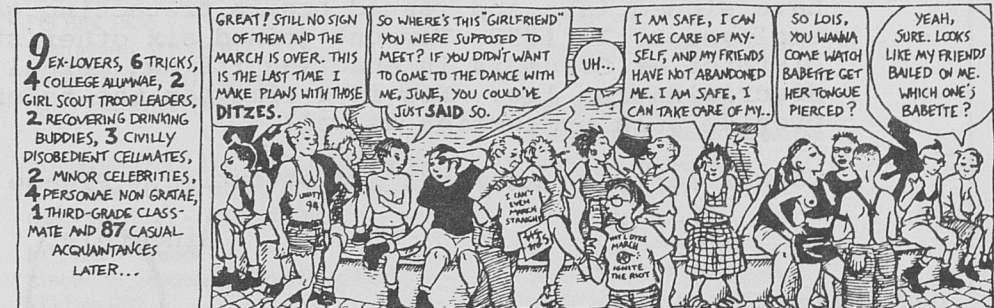
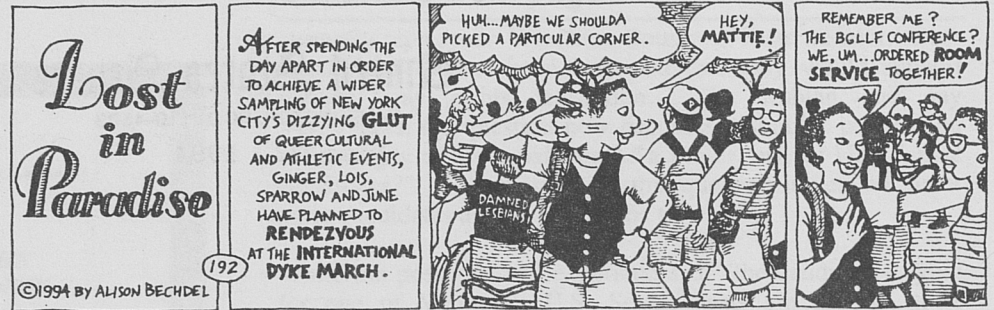
New York is poised to become the second state to offer benefits to domestic partners of gay and lesbian state employees under a plan announced by Gov. Mario Cuomo in June.

Some information courtesy of the Burlington Free-Press, The Washington Blade and the Associated Press. ▼

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## Dykes To Watch Out For

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