

AASP Celebrates National Singles Week September 16 - September 22

Outreach to Members of Congress

The American Association for Single People is launching National Singles Week by having its leaders deliver certificates to 135 members of Congress. National Singles Week is commemorated during the third week of September. *(See story on back page for the history of National Singles Week.)*

AASP's President Nora Baladerian and Executive Director Thomas F. Coleman will fly to the nation's capital on Sept. 15. A reception will be held the following day for local AASP members (D.C., Maryland, and Virginia).

On Sept. 17 and 18, Baladerian and Coleman and some local members will visit the offices of 123 members of the House of Representatives to deliver a "Census Bureau Certification of Unmarried Majority District." The certificate documents the fact that in each of these congressional districts the majority of households are headed by unmarried adults. A certificate also will be delivered to 12 United States Senators from six "unmarried majority" states. *(See page 4 for a sample certificate.)*

AASP has also contacted the governors of New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Nevada, Mississippi, and Louisiana -- states in which the majority of households are headed by single and unmarried adults. We asked them to proclaim the week of September 16 - 22 as National Singles Week in their state. A similar request has been made to the mayors of several cities. *(See page 3 for a sample Proclamation.)*

Outreach to Singles and the Media

On August 1, 2001, we sent out a press release to more than 200 singles' organizations, newspapers, and newsletters throughout the nation. We asked them to spread the word about National Singles Week and to encourage their readers and members to celebrate the occasion in some appropriate way.

We included a sample proclamation so people could ask their governor or mayor to sign it. We also included a list of actions single people could take prior to and during National Singles Week.

AASP is sending a media advisory out to feature writers and political editors at major newspapers throughout the nation to alert them of story opportunities for National Singles Week. A similar advisory is being sent to radio talk shows and AP bureaus in all states.

Perhaps journalists will do a story about single and unmarried people in their communities to be published during the week of September 16. Or maybe the media in these "unmarried majority" congressional districts will interview these members of Congress about how they plan to represent unmarried constituents. Some may even want to take a photo of leaders of AASP presenting the member of Congress with the certificate documenting the unmarried majority status of their district.

We want to hear from you. Write to us or e-mail us. Tell us what you did to celebrate National Singles Week in your community. Do something to make it a memorable occasion.

Things You Can Do

- ✓ Proclamations
- ✓ Church or Temple
- ✓ Bookstores
- ✓ Libraries
- ✓ Gift memberships
- ✓ Radio talk shows
- ✓ Letters to editors
- ✓ Greeting cards
- ✓ Reception or party
(see page 2 for details)