**Morphological Studies of Crystallization in Thin Films o -----Original Message-----From: Linda Mennitt [mailto:felix.com@verizon.net] Sent: Monday, March 14, 2005 11:08 PMTo: commentsSubject: faf PEO/PMMA Blends**

*Brian Okerberg and Hervé Marand*

Morphological development during crystallization of thin films of poly(ethylene oxide) (PEO) / poly(methyl methacrylair tax for all Adverse Tax Consequences for Same-Sex Couples 1.Health Insurance for Partners - A Taxing Proposition: Employees payincome te) (PMMA) blends has been reported. Studies focused on the effects of the bleand payroll tax on the health insurance premiums their employers provide for domestic partners who do not otherwise qualify as dependents.nd composition, PMMA molecular weight, film thickness, and crystalliza Benefits for different-sex spouses are not subject to this tax. 2.Flexible Spending Accounts Not So Flexible: Employees can useflexible tion temperature on the observed crystal morphology. As the blend composition was varied from 90 to 30 wt% PEO, the crystal morphology vspending accounts to pay for a different-sex spouse's medical expenses, including eyeglasses, prescriptions, and co-pays, on a pre-tax basaried from spherulites to needles and dendrites. Variation of the crystis. These accounts cannot be used for a same-sex partner, or even a same-sex spouse. 3.Retirement Savings - Death and Taxes: Tax treatmenallization temperature and PMMA molecular weight resulted in similar changes in morphology. A morphological map demonstrating the roles of the experimental controls on the observed crystal morphology has been developedt of retirementsavings, such as those found in 401(k) plans, privileges spouses and penalizes same-sex couples. This means that on the dea. This map th of a partner, the surviving partner is left not only with the same emotional loss that a different-sex spouse experiences, but also witwas used as a tool for more detailed studies of the observed morphologies and morphological transitions. The dendritic region of the map (~ 30 – 40 wt% PEO) was studied in detail, focusing on sidebranch formation and coarsening. In-situh an unfair tax bill. This is problem is made even more acute by the fact that same-sex couples are denied survivors' benefits under Socia observations of morphological transitions, such as l Security, even though they pay the same payroll taxes as heterosexual workers. 4.Estate and Gift Taxes - Strangers Under the Law: Diffedendrite/DBM and Drent-sexspouses get a complete exemption from estate and gift taxes. But same-sex partners, even ones who are married in Massachusetts or BM/needle transitions, were also reported. The results of this work parties to civil unions in Vermont, are treated as strangers under the tax code. So when a partner dies, their estate is subject to taxatihave helped to define new directions for the study of crystal morphologies, especially in the areas of spherulite formation and dendron. Social Security - Adverse Consequences for Same-Sex Couples 1.Equal Contribution, Unequal Benefits: All GLBT people pay intoSocial Seitic growth.

Authcurity on an equal basis with their heterosexual counterparts, but are not eligible for equal benefits. 2.No Survivors' Benefits: Same-seor information:

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Bldg 224, Room 23x partners do not receive survivors'benefits when a partner dies, even though they pay for them equally. 3.No Disability Benefits: Same-s0B, MS 8541

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Fax: 30ex partners are not eligible forspouse's benefits when a partner becomes disabled, even though they pay equally into the program. 4.Children Are Left Unp1-975-3928

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