

Gay couples, unhappy with civil unions, go for marriage in Conn.

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HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) - The Connecticut Supreme Court is taking up the issue of gay marriage today.


Connecticut is one of six states with laws granting same-sex couples most spousal rights while stopping just short of matrimony.

Eight gay and lesbian couples are suing over the state's refusal to grant them marriage licenses. They want the court to rule that Connecticut's marriage law is unconstitutional because it applies only to heterosexual couples.

The state argues that Connecticut's 2005 civil unions law gives the couples the equality they seek under state law.

The state Supreme Court began is expected to issue a decision later in the year.

Attorneys on both sides say a ruling in the couples' favor could have nationwide implications for states that have adopted or are considering civil union-like legislation.

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