



Will Goose Island be the next Fire Island?

David Ormsby

Springfield Political Buzz Examiner

(Chicago, IL) – If Chicago's [Goose Island](#) seeks to poach [Fire Island](#)'s gay tourist trade, Governor **Pat Quinn** is willing to help.

One year after signing civil union legislation, Quinn today announced the launch of a new section of the state's official tourism website tailored toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered travelers, a move that drew praise from a top Illinois House Democratic lawmaker.

"Tailoring the site to meet the needs of LGBT travelers will help them make the most of their visit while supporting the growing Illinois tourism industry," said Quinn.

The new "Pride Illinois" section of the Illinois Office of Tourism (IOT) website – www.EnjoyIllinois.com – provides a listing of TAG Approved® accommodations throughout Illinois. A TAG Approved® property enforces non-discriminatory policies, treats heterosexual and domestic partners equally in personnel policies, and provides LGBT diversity and sensitivity training for employees.

Quinn's gay and lesbian tourist promotion on the official Illinois Web site won him an enthusiastic response from veteran lawmaker and long-time human rights champion State Rep. **Sara Feigenholtz** (D-Chicago).

"As Illinois' honeymoon with its new civil union law continues and as same-sex marriage looms, Governor Quinn's decision to roll-out the electronic welcome mat for LGBT tourists is both smart and warmly welcomed," said Feigenholtz.

Feigenholtz noted that a study by OutNow Global, revealed gay and lesbian travelers spent an average of \$1,974 on leisure travel over the past twelve months. The study also showed that 78% of LGBT consumers prefer to stay at "gay-welcoming" hotels.

This is your chance Goose Island. Get out the glitter.

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