

Statement...

...from State Representative Sara Feigenholtz

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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Legislation Outlawing Gay Conversion Therapy Signed Into Law

Chief co-sponsor Rep. Sara Feigenholtz: "About Time."

CHICAGO, Ill. – In response to HB 217 being signed into law, state Rep. Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, issued the following statement:

"LGBTQ youth can no longer be subjected to harmful conversion therapy 'treatments' aimed at changing their sexual orientation in the state of Illinois", said Feigenholtz as she applauded Rep Kelly Cassidy, the chief sponsor for making it illegal to try to change the sexual orientation of children in Illinois.

"I am proud to stand with Rep. Cassidy as a chief co-sponsor on this bi-partisan legislation, which prevents mental health providers from partaking in the appalling and destructive practice of conversion therapy. Conversion therapy has increased self-hatred, hostility, feelings of betrayal, loss of friends, and declines in emotional intimacy in far too many children and young adults.

"We live in a country where we can openly love and marry whomever we choose. Monumental social changes have occurred that guarantee future generations will no longer have to hide who they are. Instead, they can proudly assert themselves and be accepted."

As early as 2001, Surgeon General David Satcher stated, 'there is no valid scientific evidence that sexual orientation can be changed.' Today, the law reflects this fact.

This law is effective immediately.

For more information, please contact Rep. Feigenholtz's constituent service office at 773-296-4141, email sara@staterepsara.com, or visit www.staterepsara.com.

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