



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Rep. Mark Spreitzer, Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa, and Sen. Tim Carpenter introduce marriage equality package

MADISON- Today, State Representative Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit), State Representative JoCasta Zamarripa (D-Milwaukee), and State Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) three of the four openly LGBT members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, introduced the Marriage Equality Package, including the Marriage and Family Equality Act and a constitutional amendment to eliminate restrictions on marriage.

“Wisconsin law must be read in a gender neutral way that recognizes equal rights for all married couples. However, because of Wisconsin’s outdated statutes and constitution, many same-sex couples face continued legal challenges, particularly when seeking parental rights. We must address the discriminatory language of our state’s legal system and allow for the inclusion of all Wisconsin residents.” – Rep. Mark Spreitzer.

“As elected officials, the laws that we write don’t just govern many aspects of our daily lives, they are also a statement of our aspirations for the ideal state we’d like to live in. Our state constitution must utilize language that makes it clear we respect, honor and include all of Wisconsin’s citizens, including LGBT Wisconsinites.” – Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa.

“It is time for Wisconsin to update the language used in its statutes and constitution to be inclusive of the loving same-sex couples who have finally been afforded equality in marriage. By changing this language from referring to married couples as ‘husband’ and ‘wife’ to simply ‘spouses’, Wisconsin will be taking a much needed step forward in accepting marriage equality. This will send a strong signal to LGBT people in Wisconsin that they are accepted here, and that we as a state will no longer tolerate exclusive language in our laws or our constitution.” – Sen. Tim Carpenter.

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