

Fair Wisconsin: Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers signs pro-LGBTQ executive order

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Evers' order will provide nondiscrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression

MADISON – On his first day in office, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed an executive order this afternoon which prohibits discrimination against LGBTQ people within state agencies, state contractors, and state grantees.

“Governor Evers heard his constituents loud and clear and took action to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in the workplace,” said Megin McDonell, Executive Director of Fair Wisconsin. “This Executive Order modernizes our state’s internal policies to make sure Wisconsin government employees are judged solely on their job performance, not who they are or who they love. Our state is at its strongest when we’re all free to work hard, earn a decent living, and go about our lives without fear of discrimination. Discrimination has no place in our state, and this Executive Order is an important step towards making sure our state is a safe place for everyone to live, work, and play.”

Fair Wisconsin is one of the state’s most respected advocacy groups and has a proud history in political action, education, grassroots organizing, and outreach in the cause of LGBTQ equality. Governor Evers has been a longtime ally of the LGBTQ community, dating back to his days as State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Wisconsin state law provides nondiscrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public spaces, though it is one of 31 states nationwide that lacks explicit and comprehensive protections on the basis of gender identity or expression.