



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Rep. Greta Neubaauer
(608) 237-9166/Rep.Neubaauer@legis.wi.gov

Rep. Neubaauer Debuts Pride Month Bill
***Legislation protects crime victims from discrimination
based on gender or sexual identity***

MADISON – Today, Representative Greta Neubaauer (D-Racine) joined the Wisconsin Legislative LGBT Caucus and allies in releasing the 2019 Equality Agenda in honor of Pride Month. Rep. Neubaauer introduced a new bill authored with Reps. Marisabel Cabrera (D-Milwaukee), Rep. Todd Novak (R-Dodgeville), and Sen. Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) eliminating the so-called “Gay” or “Trans Panic” defense. Neubaauer released the following statement:

“I am so proud to stand together with the LGBT Caucus and guests to bring this important legislation today,” Neubaauer said. “The Equality Package represents a diversity of priorities aimed at increasing equality for our LGBTQ+ neighbors in Racine and across our state.”

“I am especially proud to introduce LRB 2490 along with Representatives Cabrera and Novak and Senator Carpenter. This bill would eliminate the so-called “Gay Panic” or “Trans Panic” defense, which discriminates against crime victims based on their gender or sexual identity. It’s unacceptable today that criminal defendants can further discriminate against victims based on their LGBTQ+ identity, and I’m committed to working to end this abhorrent practice,” Neubaauer concluded.

Carl Hubbard, Board President of Racine’s own LGBT Center of Southeast Wisconsin, also spoke at the press conference, stating “The bills are paper. The lives that these bills will impact are real.”

A Racine press conference with further details regarding LRB 2490 and the Equality Package will take place in Racine on June 17th, 2019. Further information will follow.

The full 2019 Equality Agenda is attached, including summaries of each bill included in the package.

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Pride Month – AJR 47

Zamarripa, Spreitzer, Carpenter

Recognizing June 2019 as LGBT Pride Month

50th Anniversary of Stonewall Uprising – LRB-3314

Zamarripa, Spreitzer, Carpenter

Recognizing June 28, 2019 as the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising

The Marriage and Family Equality Act – LRB-2160

Spreitzer, Zamarripa, Carpenter

This bill recognizes same-sex marriage by making references in the statutes to spouses gender neutral. The bill also recognizes legal parentage for same-sex couples under certain

Eliminating Constitutional Restrictions on Marriage – LRB-3317

Zamarripa, Spreitzer, Carpenter

This constitutional amendment, proposed to the 2019 legislature on first consideration, eliminates the constitutional restriction that only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state and the provision that a legal status identical or substantially similar to that of a marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized in this state.

Gender Identity Non-Discrimination – LRB-0045

Spreitzer, Zamarripa, Carpenter

This bill prohibits discrimination on the basis of a person's gender identity, gender expression, or gender nonconformity, which is defined in the bill as a person's gender-related identity, gender-related appearance, gender-related expression, or gender-related behavior, regardless of the person's assigned sex at birth.

Transgender Day of Remembrance – LRB-3340

Carpenter, Spreitzer, Zamarripa

Proclaiming November 20th as a day to memorialize those who have been murdered as a result of transphobia and to bring attention to the continued violence endured by the transgender community.

Eliminating LGBTQ “Panic” Defense – LRB-2490

Neubauer, Cabrera, Novak, Carpenter

Under Wisconsin’s criminal statutes, defendants may assert specific defenses to criminal liability, including adequate provocation or self-defense. In some cases, defendants have asserted these defenses based on the gender or sexual identity of the victim, often called the “gay panic” or “trans panic” defense. This perpetuates the myth that LGBTQ people are inherently dangerous and places blame on the victim, rather than the perpetrator. LRB-2490 eliminates the so-called gay and/or trans panic defenses in Wisconsin, stating that defendants cannot assert adequate provocation or self-defense if the criminal act resulted from the discovery of, knowledge of, or potential disclosure of the victim’s gender identity or expression or sexual orientation.

Transgender Equality Task Force – LRB-2628

Sargent, Spreitzer, Carpenter

This bill creates an equality task force. The task force is required to study the legal and societal barriers to equality for transgender, intersex, non-binary, and gender nonconforming individuals in Wisconsin and provide recommendations to the governor and the legislature on how to ensure the equality and improve the lives of those individuals.

Prohibiting Conversion Therapy – AB 111

Stuck, Novak, Risser, Carpenter

This bill prohibits certain mental health providers from engaging in conversion therapy with a minor. Conversion therapy is any practice that seeks to change an individual’s gender expression, gender identity, or sexual orientation.