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**CAVALIER JOHNSON**  
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

# **City of Glendale takes action to ban conversion therapy**

## **Statement of Alderman Cavalier Johnson August 27, 2019**

I applaud the City of Glendale for banning conversion therapy and commend the community leaders who advocated for this change. The Glendale Common Council voted unanimously yesterday (August 26<sup>th</sup>) to approve the ban (conversion therapy is a dangerous practice aimed at changing a person's sexual orientation or gender expression).

Conversion therapy can pose critical health risks to lesbian, gay and bisexual people including depression, suicidal tendencies, substance abuse, stress and disconnection with family and friends, according to a report from the American Psychological Association.

In March 2018, under legislation I sponsored, Milwaukee became the first city in Wisconsin to outlaw conversion therapy practices for anyone under 18. I am grateful that Madison, Eau Claire, Cudahy, Shorewood, Racine, Superior and now Glendale have followed suit since then. Again, I continue to call for a statewide ban on conversion therapy and strongly encourage action from municipalities in the interim.

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