

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIR

- Judiciary and Legislation

MEMBER

- Public Works Committee
- Administrative Review and Appeals Board
- Community and Economic Development
- League of Wisconsin Municipalities
- Redevelopment Authority - City of Milwaukee



CAVALIER JOHNSON
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

Racine takes action to ban conversion therapy

Statement of Alderman Cavalier Johnson July 17, 2019

I applaud the City of Racine City Council for voting to ban conversion therapy and I commend the community leaders who advocated for this change (conversion therapy is a dangerous practice aimed at changing a person's sexual orientation or gender expression).

Conversion therapy has been cited to increase the likelihood of someone experiencing depression, anxiety or attempting suicide. As stated by Racine Alderman Trevor Jung, "Last night we sent a message to our LGBTQ youth that they are welcomed, loved and an important part of our community that deserve full protections under the law. Our community has taken a critical step in protecting children from abuse."

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 and now Racine have followed suit since then. However, I continue to call for a statewide ban on conversion therapy, and strongly encourage action from municipalities in the interim.

-30-