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**CAVALIER JOHNSON**  
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

# Another city takes action on conversion therapy

## **Statement of Alderman Cavalier Johnson**

January 4, 2019

I applaud Cudahy for becoming the latest Wisconsin city to ban conversion therapy and thank Cudahy Alderman Justin Morales for his leadership on this issue. Conversion therapy is a dangerous and discredited practice aimed at changing one's sexual orientation or gender identity.

Studies from the American Psychological Association report that "lifelong effects of conversion therapy include depression, suicidality, and substance abuse." To be clear, conversion therapy can have wide-ranging harmful, lasting effects on individuals and has no place in any municipality in Wisconsin.

Last spring, under legislation I sponsored, Milwaukee became the first city in Wisconsin to outlaw conversion therapy practices for anyone under 18. Since then we have seen Madison and Eau Claire follow suit, along with this latest positive development in Cudahy. I continue to call for a statewide ban on conversion therapy. In the interim, I urge municipalities to outlaw this dangerous practice.

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