



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

STANDING UP FOR THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



Governor Whitmer is fighting to make Michigan a place where the LGBTQ+ community feels safe, valued, and knows that their state will invest in their health and potential.

Advocating for LGBTQ+ right

- Established first-ever [statewide LGBTQ+ commission](#) to address issues facing Michigan's LGBTQ+ community.
- Amended the [Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act](#) to reaffirm and expand protections for sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, ensuring no one can be fired from their jobs or evicted from their home for who they love or how they identify.
- [Filed an amicus brief](#) in the Michigan Supreme Court arguing the language of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act [prohibits discrimination](#) based on sexual orientation. Michigan Supreme Court issued a ruling agreeing that the Act provides protections for sexual orientation.
- [Signed legislation](#) making it easier for Michiganders to change their names or gender designation on official documents.

Protecting the LGBTQ+ community and youth

- [Signed](#) an executive directive to strengthen protections against discrimination in state employment, including for gender identity or expression and sexual orientation. This directive extended those protections to the employees of anyone doing business with the state too.
- [Signed](#) an executive directive to prohibit the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to use any funds for conversion therapy on minors. It also requires any department or agency that regulates, provides, procures, or pays for medical or mental health services to protect minors from conversion therapy.
- Signed legislation [banning conversion therapy](#) for minors in Michigan.
- Vetoed [anti-trans budget language](#) that sought to deny gender affirming healthcare.
- [Outlawed](#) the “gay or transgender panic defense” in a court of law.

Recognizing the LGBTQ+ community

- Issued an annual [proclamation](#) marking June as Pride Month.
- Was the first Governor to march at the Motor City Pride parade and fly the [Pride Flag](#) on a State of Michigan building in 2019.
- [Renamed](#) Downtown Lansing's Lewis Cass Building to the “Elliot-Larsen Building” in honor of the bipartisan sponsors of Michigan's Civil Rights Law.