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.

Protecting the LGBTQ+ community and youth

- Took executive action 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.
- Banned conversion therapy for minors in Michigan.
- Vetoed anti-trans budget language that sought to deny gender affirming healthcare.
- Established first-ever statewide LGBTQ+ commission to address issues facing Michigan's LGBTQ+ community.
- Outlawed the "gay or transgender panic defense" in a court of law.
- 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.
- Successfully defended the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act against attacks, ensuring protections for sexual orientation.
- Signed legislation making it easier for Michiganders to change their names or gender designation on official documents.
- Signed the Michigan Hate Crime Act, which expands the definition of hate crimes and protects against crimes based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Celebrating the LGBTQ+ community

- Issued an annual proclamation marking June as Pride Month.
- Was the first Governor to march at the Motor City Pride parade
- Was the first Governor to 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.

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