



Mailing Address

3318 N. Halsted Street
Chicago, IL 60657

Phone

773-477-7173

Fax

773-477-6912

E-mail

info@eqil.org

Web

www.equalityillinois.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2013

Business Provides Main Street Support for the Marriage Bill Reaction from Bernard Cherkasov, CEO of Equality Illinois

Earlier today, businesses and executives released an open letter to the General Assembly in support of the marriage equality bill because it is good for business and a Main Street value.

"These business leaders make fact-driven decisions everyday and are motivated by logic and reason. They see no reason to deny loving, committed couples equal access to the benefits and responsibilities of civil marriage. At the same time, they acknowledge that in their offices, factories, stores, restaurants and hotels, a diverse workforce is essential for success," said Bernard Cherkasov, CEO of Equality Illinois.

"Illinois legislators should recognize that to benefit everyone in Illinois and build a stronger future, the state must remain competitive. Passing marriage equality is a major step in that direction," Cherkasov said.

The Illinois business letter of support was built from a foundation laid by the [Equality Illinois Report: The Business Case for Marriage Equality](#). The report includes "Ten Reasons Business Leaders Support Marriage Equality" and also lists national brands and national business leaders who support marriage equality.

"These national brands and executives support marriage equality and value diversity, and Illinois has to answer to that when the companies look for new places to do business," Cherkasov said. "The demands of our modern, interconnected business world should lead Illinois lawmakers to join the right side of history."

The Open Letter from Illinois Business Leaders can be found [HERE](#).

#