



**EQUALITY
ILLINOIS**

PRESS RELEASE

Founded in 1991, Equality Illinois is the state's oldest, largest and most effective organization advocating for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Illinoisans.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 21, 2013

Equality Illinois Welcomes President Clinton's Support for the Illinois Marriage Bill

CHICAGO – Bernard Cherkasov, CEO of Equality Illinois, the state's oldest and largest advocacy organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Illinoisans, welcomes the support of former President Bill Clinton in the Illinois campaign for the freedom to marry:

"After the referendums in the November election and the legislative action in recent weeks in Rhode Island, Delaware and Minnesota, former President Bill Clinton now makes it clear that the eyes of the nation are squarely on Illinois as the next state to embrace the freedom to marry for all loving, committed couples.

"President Clinton notes that extending freedoms to people previously denied them 'has strengthened our nation,' and it will similarly strengthen Illinois. We will prevail because this is the course of our country over its history, as President Clinton reminds us.

"It's time for the Illinois House of Representatives to heed the words of leaders such as President Obama and President Clinton and many others to pass the bill now."

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