



## 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

January 24, 2013

#### **Rhode Island House Vote for the Freedom to Marry Adds to National and Illinois Momentum**

CHICAGO - The momentum nationally and in Illinois for the freedom to marry continued with a strong push from today's overwhelming vote by the Rhode Island House, according to Equality Illinois.

"With Illinois lawmakers expected to consider a similar measure in the weeks ahead, they should recognize the inexorable march moving the issue forward," said Bernard Cherkasov, CEO of Equality Illinois.

"From four referendum victories in the November election to President Obama's call for equality during his inaugural address to today's action in Rhode Island, it should be clear to Illinois House and Senate members that it's time to vote for the Illinois marriage bill," Cherkasov said.

"This is a watershed time in our nation, and Illinois legislators need to stand up and see that the right side of history is being in support of the Illinois Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act."

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