

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Proclamation

WHEREAS, on June 28, 1969, the police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village, New York City, spurring six days of protests, led by transgender women of color like Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, against police brutality and government-sanctioned discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals; and,

WHEREAS, it is due to the Stonewall Uprising that the LGBTQ+ community laid out the message by which subsequent rallies and protests would be organized, by demanding acceptance and respect while declaring pride in who they are and whom they love; and,

WHEREAS, June is annually celebrated as Pride Month to commemorate the Stonewall Uprising, considered the catalyst of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement, and to recognize the contributions LGBTQ+ individuals have made to our society; and,

WHEREAS, from day one, my administration has sought to protect LGBTQ+ individuals, including funding gender-affirming surgeries, expanding HIV preventative care and treatment, and strengthening inclusivity in state identification documents and classrooms in which LGBTQ+ students can thrive and see themselves reflected in the curriculum; and,

WHEREAS, in 2025, my administration signed the Equality for Every Family Act, providing expanded protections for children in Illinois to ensure equitable access to a secure legal family, affirming the dignity of LGBTQ+ families and families formed through assisted reproduction and surrogacy; and,

WHEREAS, we also enacted landmark name change modernization in 2025, ensuring the safety and privacy of transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming individuals seeking to align their legal identity with who they are, removing barriers and protecting vulnerable communities; and,

WHEREAS, well-being, economic security, and meaningful social connections are particularly vital to LGBTQ+ elders and those living with HIV, both communities will be prioritized, protected, and regarded properly by being designated amongst communities of "greatest social need"; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois continues to advance the Getting to Zero plan, a statewide initiative to end the HIV epidemic by 2030, including expanded access to PrEP and PEP without prior physician referral, and ensuring resources are directed to communities most impacted by HIV, including Black, Latinx, and transgender Illinoisans; and,

WHEREAS, as our transgender brothers and sisters are targeted by the federal administration's renewed attempts to revoke LGBTQ+ protections, Illinois must continue to be a beacon of hope and safety against the backdrop of horrifically discriminatory and draconian laws; and,

WHEREAS, drag and drag balls, a cornerstone of LGBTQ+ culture with roots in post-Civil War Reconstruction by pioneer and Black queer activist William Dorsey Swann, have come under superfluous and profoundly dishonest attacks - it is essential to the fabric of our country that this art be celebrated, worthy of protection and preservation; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is committed to becoming a national leader in equality, championing our shared goals of inclusivity where people are not just tolerated but empowered to thrive, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or presentation;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 2026 as Pride Month in Illinois and urge all Illinoisans to reflect upon our history and envision a more inclusive future, reaffirming our deep, unyielding commitment to building a more just and equitable society.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this _____ FIRST _____ day of _____ JUNE _____, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
_____ TWENTY-SIX _____, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and _____ SEVENTH _____.*



Alexi Giannouli
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR