



Marriage Equality Is Now the Law in New York State

Thanks to the determination and courage of the majority of New York State Legislators, the commitment and political skill of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the unwavering support and advocacy of the LGBT community and its allies, including the League of Women Voters, couples of the same sex will be able to enter into civil marriages in New York State. Passed and signed on June 24th, the Act becomes effective in 30 days.

In supporting this historical change in law, the League of Women Voters of New York stated that "marriage equality is different in type, but not in kind, from other civil rights struggles, including the suffrage movement that led to the League's formation".

Since 1993, the League has supported equality of opportunity for employment, housing and public accommodation for all people in New York regardless of their race, color, gender, including gender identity and expression, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability. At its 2010 national convention, delegates unanimously supported the addition of marriage equality to the League's Equality of Opportunity position."

It is clear that your responses to our Calls to Action; including your many letters, postcards, phone calls and emails to the Governor and your legislators played an important role in demonstrating popular support for this landmark legislation. The long, tumultuous and exhausting road to passage of the Marriage Equality Act is one more proof that 'Democracy is not a Spectator Sport'.

Anyone interested in more information on same sex marriage in New York City may visit the City Clerk's website: www.cityclerk.nyc.gov