

Office of
the Mayor
Burlington,
Vermont



Bob Kiss
Mayor
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March 24, 2009

Re: Same-sex marriage legislation

Dear Governor Douglas and the Chittenden County Legislative Delegation:

The legislation now under consideration by the Legislature to achieve marriage equality is past due. Nine years ago Vermont led the nation when it legalized civil unions for same-sex couples. Yet we continue to deny the right of marriage – for our friends, family members and constituents – to same-sex couples. Our experience in Vermont with civil unions confirms that our best and most important decisions are based on a long history of commitment to fairness, equality, individual liberties, and civil rights.

We have an opportunity to fulfill these principles and enact real change for all the people of Vermont by passing a same-sex marriage law. We urge you all to act now and support civil marriage rights in the State of Vermont for same sex couples.

On behalf of the Mayor and Burlington City Council,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Kiss".

Bob Kiss, Mayor

Ed Adrian, City Councilor, Ward 1

Andy Montroll, City Councilor, Ward 6

Sharon Bushor, City Councilor, Ward 1

Karen Paul, City Councilor, Ward 6

David Berezniak, City Councilor, Ward 2

Craig Gutchell, City Councilor, Ward 7

Jane Knodell, City Councilor, Ward 2

Emma Mulvaney-Stanak, Councilor-Elect, Ward 2

Clarence Davis, City Councilor, Ward 3

Marrisa Caldwell, Councilor-Elect, Ward 3

Russ Ellis, City Councilor, Ward 4

Nancy Kaplan, Councilor-Elect, Ward 4

Bill Keogh, City Councilor, Ward 5

Mary Kehoe, Councilor-Elect, Ward 6

Joan Shannon, City Councilor, Ward 5