

Mitch Reynolds, Mayor, City of La Crosse

September 8, 2022

Honorable Mayor,

As the City Council has voted to adopt the so called ban on conversion therapy Ordinance, we the below signed request you veto the adopted Ordinance. As we are sure you are aware, according to the City Clerk, passed Ordinances automatically go into effect 24 hours after its publication which is on the 2nd Saturday after passage. Your signature does not cause it to go into effect even if you choose to sign it before that date.

Also according to the City Clerk, you have until 5pm on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 to veto the Ordinance (irrelevant if you sign the Ordinance or not). You have until 5pm on that Tuesday to veto the Ordinance.

We wish to point out that the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty (WILL) has informed the City that (among other points) the Supreme Court has already ruled on this stating in their letters to the City: ...in 2018 the Supreme Court observed that it had never “recognized ‘professional speech’ as a separate category of speech” and declined to “treat [] professional speech as a unique category that is exempt from ordinary First Amendment principles.” *Nat’l Inst. Of Fam. & Life Advocs. V. Becerra*, 138 S. Ct. 2361, 2371-72, 2375 (2018).

Also WILL stated in the letters: We urge the City to instead abandon this project and return its focus to local issues within its remit. As mentioned above, if it declines to do so and adopts a ban in the same form as the Ordinance or a substantial equivalent, it will find itself facing a lawsuit.

Please protect the City and veto the Ordinance. Thank you.