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July 9, 2007



The Assembly
State of New York

GINNY FIELDS
Member of Assembly
5TH District

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Real Property Taxation
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CHAIR
Sub-Committee on Child Product Safety

Mr. Sebastian Maguire
Marriage Equality New York
P.O. Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0121

Re: Same Sex Marriage

Dear Mr. Maguire:

Thank you for writing regarding the New York State Assembly's recently passed legislation (A.8590) that would legalize same-sex marriage. As a co-sponsor of Bill A.8590, I am in support of legislation that will provide for marriage equality for all New Yorkers. Such legislation would serve to provide gay and lesbian couples with the 1500 rights they are currently denied.

I am reminded of the 'separate but equal' days when I contemplate the decision between civil unions or marriages; what is good enough for one group of people in this state must also be for another—this is at the forefront of what we supposedly believe in as Americans. Yet, for some reason, we provide rationalizations and justifications to continuously and willingly discriminate against minorities (whether categorized by race, religion, or sexual orientation). The civil rights movement of the sixties taught us that separate but equal does not work and unless we learn from our history, we will only see it repeat itself over and over again.

I fail to see how affording New York's homosexuals with the same right as the rest of us would ruin or tarnish the sanctity of marriage more than heterosexual marriages already have. We suffer a divorce rate of nearly 50% and our populace is continuously entertained by programs such as "The Bachelor" and "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire," which make game shows of this sacred commitment. To me, this behavior is far more insulting to the institution of marriage than homosexual marriage would be. As such, I feel it terribly hypocritical to deny any group of people the same rights given to others on such a basis.

I am pleased that Bill A.8590 has passed the Assembly and hope to see it's passage in the New York State Senate next Session. Thank you for taking the time to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ginny Fields". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Ginny Fields
New York State Assembly
5th District

GF: srt



DANIEL R. GARODNICK
COUNCIL MEMBER, 4TH DISTRICT

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garodnick@council.nyc.ny.us

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CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Via U.S. Mail

July 26, 2007

Sebastian Maguire
Marriage Equality New York
P.O. Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113

Dear Mr. Maguire:

Thank you for your letter of July 5, 2007 regarding the marriage equality bill passed by the New York State Assembly in June.

Please rest assured that I am a supporter of marriage equality for same-sex couples. You can count on me to support a resolution in the City Council that would urge the Senate to follow the lead of the Assembly.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Justine Almada in my Legislative Office at (212) 788-7393.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Garodnick



JOSEPH D. MORELLE
Assemblyman 132ND District
Monroe County

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STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

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Arts and Sports Development

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Higher Education
Local Governments
Libraries & Education
Technology

July 19, 2007

Mr. Sebastian Maguire
Marriage Equality New York
P.O. Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113

Dear Mr. Maguire:

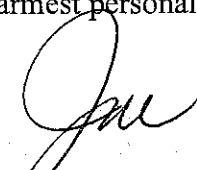
Thank you for contacting my office over the course of the 2007 Legislative Session to express your support for A.8590, which would legalize same-sex marriage in New York State.

I have been, and remain, a strong believer in equal legal protection, citizenship status and benefits for same-sex couples. I believe that providing equal rights to all New Yorkers is paramount and should not be denied on the basis of religious sanctions.

Assembly Bill 8590 passed the Assembly, with my support, on June 19, 2007, but died in the Senate's Judiciary Committee. Passing this initiative was a milestone for New York State, and I am confident that we will continue these discussions when Legislative Session resumes next year.

Once again, thank you for contacting me to express your support for this important piece of legislation. As always, if I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warmest personal regards,


Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Assembly

JDM:ram



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Environmental Conservation Committee

TERESA R. SAYWARD
Assemblywoman 113TH District
Essex, Hamilton, Saratoga and
Warren Counties

COMMITTEES
Children and Families
Corrections
Education

July 20, 2007

Sebastian Maguire
Marriage Equality New York
PO Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, New York 10113-0121

Dear Mr. Maguire:

Thank you for your kind words of support! I have received a number of letters, emails, and calls regarding the sensitive issue of marriage equality. It has taken me some time to catch up with acknowledging them all. I value each person's thoughts and concerns. The fact that so many have taken the time to voice their reaction ensures that the "discussion" of this civil rights issue will continue.

Once one dispassionately examines the issue from a legal point of view, there is no argument for discrimination. Your support, and that of so many others, encourages me to believe that this will be the generation that embraces tolerance and fairness.

Sincerely,

Teresa R. Sayward
Assemblywoman, 113th District
Essex, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren Counties



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Committee on Higher Education
Committee on Election Law

JOEL M. MILLER
Assemblyman 102ND District

COMMITTEES
Education
Health

July 13, 2007

Mr. Sebastian Maguire
P.O. Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0121

Dear Mr. Maguire,

Thank you for your words of encouragement. For those of us that went out of our way for this important issue, we now must continue this fight together.

Any financial assistance that you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Working together is the best way to get things accomplished.

If either my staff or I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at (845) 46301635 or via email at millerj@assembly.state.ny.us.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Joel M. Miller
Member of Assembly
102nd Assembly District

JMM/klp



RICHARD N. GOTTFRIED
75TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

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COMMITTEES:
RULES
HEALTH
HIGHER EDUCATION
MAJORITY STEERING

CHAIR
MANHATTAN DELEGATION

August 2, 2007

Sebastian McGuire
Marriage Equality New York
PO Box 121
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113

Dear Mr. Maguire:

Thank you very much for writing to let me know of your appreciation of my support for marriage equality.

Same-sex couples should have the same right as others to the legal and social protections, responsibilities, and benefits of civil marriage. Stable family relationships help build a stronger society.

Thank you and Marriage Equality New York for all you have done to advance this issue. Marriage Equality's early, persistent, sincere, and effective advocacy was a key factor in my decision in 2002 to introduce the marriage bill in the Assembly and intensified my commitment to the cause.

I appreciate your consideration in writing to me.

Very truly yours,

Richard N. Gottfried
Assembly Member

RNG/mk