

# The Connecticut General Assembly



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## State Rep. Currey Recognized by Sen. Murphy for Leading Conversion Therapy Ban

*Honored for LGBTQ advocacy on Pulse shooting anniversary*



*Sen. Murphy congratulates Rep. Currey at a Pride Breakfast held at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Hartford*

**State Rep. Jeff Currey** (D-East Hartford/Manchester/South Windsor) was recognized by U.S. Senator Chris Murphy on Monday for leading the passage of a ban on conversion therapy in Connecticut. Rep. Currey was honored at a breakfast in Hartford celebrating Pride Month, held on the one-year anniversary of the Pulse night club shooting that targeted the LGBTQ community.

Rep. Currey introduced legislation along with Sen. Beth Bye (D-West Hartford) to ban the practice of conversion therapy on minors, which became the first bill signed into law by Governor Malloy in 2017. Conversion therapy is the discredited practice of trying to change a minor's sexual orientation or gender identity.

“The passage of the conversion therapy ban sends a strong message to our LGBTQ youth – one of acceptance and support. As we mark the one-year anniversary of the Pulse shooting, it is especially important to remind Connecticut’s LGBTQ community of this legislature’s commitment to their safety and wellbeing,” **Rep. Currey** said. “Legislators on both sides of the aisle recognized that we could not allow this so-called therapy, which has been thoroughly proven to be dangerous and damaging to our youth, to be practiced in Connecticut. I’d like to thank Senator Murphy for this honor and for his work fighting for LGBTQ rights on the federal level.”

**U.S. Senator Chris Murphy** said, “Rep. Currey’s commitment to serving as a champion for the needs of his constituents, including his work as a lead sponsor to ban conversion therapy in our state, has helped make Connecticut a more inclusive and safe home for young people regardless of their orientation or identity. I want to thank him for all of his work.”

Research has shown conversion therapy can lead to an increased risk for mental health issues. The nation’s leading health care professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Psychological Association, have rejected conversion therapy as a legitimate practice.

The law received strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

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