

Hello  
my name is

HB 2542

## SUPPORT HB 2542: Remove The Bar For Name Changes

Sponsors: Peters, Murphy, Lightford, Cunningham, Fine,  
Johnson, Simmons and Pacione-Zayas

### ILLINOIS'S NAME CHANGE LAW IS HARMING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

Illinois's name change law is one of the most restrictive in the nation. Illinois is one of only 12 states prohibiting name changes for people on registries and one of only two states prohibiting name changes for people with identity theft convictions. Illinoisans with felony convictions cannot change their name until ten years after the end of their sentence. Illinois is one of only eight states with this kind of restriction.

**HB 2542 brings IL law in line with the majority of other states and helps trans and gender-expansive people and survivors of human trafficking live safer and more authentic lives by:**

- ◆ Removing the ten year waiting period for people with felony convictions
- ◆ Removing the lifetime ban for people with identity theft convictions
- ◆ Adding a judicial discretion exception for people seeking a name change due to gender-related identity, marriage, religion and status as a human trafficking survivor to the registration period ban in the Sex Offender, Arsonist and Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Acts
- ◆ Improving efficiency by focusing the grounds for State's Attorney Objections on petitions filed by people with pending charges, a conviction of identity theft or aggravated identity theft or a conviction requiring registration with the Sex Offender Registry
- ◆ Increasing transparency by requiring notice of objections served on petitioners
- ◆ Removing the outdated third party affidavit requirements
- ◆ Expands access to publication waiver and streamlines the waiver process
- ◆ Streamlining procedure with a statewide, standardized petition

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## **Supporting Organizations**

**360 Youth Services**

**About Face Theatre**

**ACLU of Illinois**

**AIDS Foundation of Chicago**

**Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's  
Hospital of Chicago**

**Brave Space Alliance**

**Center for Disability and Elder Law**

**Center On Halsted**

**Champaign County Bailout Coalition**

**Chicago Alliance Against Sexual  
Exploitation**

**The Chicago Bar Association**

**The Chicago Bar Foundation**

**Chicago Coalition for the Homeless**

**Chicago Community Bond Fund**

**Chicago House and Social Service Agency**

**Chicago Torture Justice Center**

**Chicago Worker's Collaborative**

**Community Renewal Society**

**Equality Illinois**

**Gage Park Latinx Council**

**Illinois Coalition for Immigrants and  
Refugee Rights**

**Illinois State Bar Association**

**Lambda Legal**

**Lawrence Hall**

**Legal Council for Health Justice**

**Moran Center for Youth Advocacy**

**NCJW Illinois**

**Northwest Side Housing Center**

**Pilsen Alliance**

**Planned Parenthood St. Louis Region and  
Southwest Missouri**

**Pride Action Tank**

**Reproductive Health Access Project,  
Illinois Chapter**

**SER El Cambio**

**She Votes Illinois**

**Suburban Unity Alliance**

**The Network**

**Transformative Justice Law Project**

**Uptown People's Law Center**

**Westside Justice Center**

**Women United**

**YEEP**

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