

**MADISON, Wis.** — In celebration of Pride Month, Democratic Party of Wisconsin Second Vice Chair, Rep. Lee Snodgrass, released the following statement:

"Today marks the first day of Pride Month, and we at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin are proud to celebrate the resilience and power of the LGBTQ+ community. LGBTQ+ Wisconsinites come from all walks of life, from small business owners and veterans to students and storekeepers, and they deserve to feel safe and welcomed in the Badger State.



"For years, Pride has been a celebration of how far we've come in the fight for true LGBTQ+ equality, but this year, Pride has taken on a different meaning for so many of us. We're in the midst of an all-out assault on LGBTQ+ rights by radical far-right politicians across the country who are trying to restrict our personal freedoms and erase the progress we've made. Even here in Wisconsin, Republican politicians in the State Legislature blocked efforts to protect people from the discredited practice of conversion therapy and are reviving an effort to ban transgender kids from participating in sports.

"Pride began as a protest which declared the right of LGBTQ+ people to exist in the public sphere, and today in the face of these attacks, we're reminded of the origins of Pride. This

## **Wisconsin Democrats Celebrate Pride Month**

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year, Pride is an act of defiance and self-love reminiscent of the first Pride Liberation March in 1970. We must continue to stand up in the face of hate and continue to fight for the right to live as our whole selves.

"While Pride might feel different this year, there's still so much to celebrate. Millions LGBTQ+ folks and their families around the country now have a measure of security thanks to the hard work of Senator Baldwin to pass the Respect for Marriage Act and enshrine marriage equality as federal law. And today, the Progress Pride Flag flies high over the Capitol building because we fought hard to reelect Governor Evers in November.

"We won't go back to that time before Pride, when we were forced to live in silence, out of sight and out of mind. We've come so far, but we won't stop fighting until we've fostered a culture in which everyone is welcomed and treated with equal dignity and respect."