

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 30, 2012) – *Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL) issued the following statement in response to the lawsuit filed by Lambda Legal seeking marriage equality in Illinois:*

□ “I applaud Lambda Legal for their lawsuit seeking marriage equality for same-sex couples within Illinois. While they represent sixteen specific couples in the suit, the issues they raise will impact thousands of same-sex couples throughout the state.

Like President Barack Obama, I believe that loving couples should be allowed to marry, regardless of their sexual orientation. I was heartened to see Illinois take a step in the right direction by allowing same-sex couples to enter into civil unions. Now it is time to take the next step and recognize same-sex couples’ right to marry. Same-sex couples deserve to be treated equally under the law, and I believe this lawsuit is the right path to this equal treatment.

We must not rest until an individual can be with the person he or she loves regardless of gender. I am happy to see this lawsuit filed, and I hope it is successful.”

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