# Chicago Unites for Pride: A Celebration of Progress and Commitment



**CHICAGO COMMITS TO PRIDE: IL HOUSE SPEAKER EMMANUEL "CHRIS" WELCH REVIVES CELEBRATION**

June marks a time of remembrance, celebration, and a shared vision for a world where people can live authentically. This year, Chicago strengthens its resonance with the LGBTQ+ community through a significant event, hosted by House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch. On Thursday, June 27th, the Godfrey Hotel in Chicago will come alive with an invigorating Pride Month celebration, bringing together Illinois' advocates and allies to highlight the strides taken in protecting LGBTQ+ rights and the continued journey towards equality.

The event promises a vibrant atmosphere—a blend of politics, gratitude, and entertainment. Legendary House DJ Ron Carrol will keep the energy high, while performers from The Baton Show Lounge, America's Premiere Drag Showcase, will undoubtedly dazzle attendees with their artistry.

What makes this celebration more than just another event on the calendar is the powerful assembly of hosts who have spent countless hours fighting for LGBTQ+ rights in Illinois. Notable figures include Rep. Kelly Cassidy of the 14th District, revered former House Majority Leader Greg Harris, Alderman Lamont Robinson from Chicago's 4th Ward, Water Reclamation District Commissioner Precious Brady-Davis, Director of Public Policy at Equality Illinois, Mike Ziri, and Youth Outlook Chair Ken Mejia-Beal. Their presence underscores the deep commitment Illinois has to championing comprehensive equality and inclusion.

"We are Democrats," Speaker Welch proclaimed, emphasising that their commitment to equality and pride extends beyond one month of the year. "We honour equality and pride 365, but we celebrate Pride Month with our friends in recognition of the continued fight to ensure Illinois is a safe haven for members of the LGBTQ community." Welch highlights Illinois as "a beacon of light, and a beacon of hope in the way we strive for all our diverse communities."

Illinois’ journey towards becoming this ‘beacon of hope’ is paved with strong legislative actions and community initiatives aimed at safeguarding the rights and dignities of all its residents, particularly its LGBTQ+ citizens. The event on June 27th isn’t just a party—it’s a statement and a pledge to keep pushing forward.

The evening at the Godfrey Hotel Rooftop promises not only delightful views of the Windy City but also opportunities for meaningful engagement and advocate empowerment. This fundraiser, which runs from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., offers ticket and sponsorship options through DemsforILHouse.com, ensuring that community members have multiple ways to participate and support the cause.

Behind this event is the Democrats for the Illinois House (DIH), a political arm dedicated to promoting equality, justice, and opportunity across the state. Under Speaker Welch’s leadership, DIH works tirelessly to maintain and extend the reach of the Illinois House Democratic Caucus, one of the nation's most diverse bodies. This diversity is reflected in its African American, Latinx, Asian American, women, and LGBTQ+ members, who together create an inclusive and welcoming environment that stands in stark contrast to the exclusionary rhetoric seen elsewhere in the political landscape.

While this event marks a joyous celebration of progress, it also serves as a stark reminder of the work that still lies ahead. Attendees will gather not just to relish the victories but to reignite their commitment to advocacy and action. For the Illinois LGBTQ+ community and its allies, June 27th at the Godfrey Hotel will be a night to remember, celebrate, and look forward to a future where equality and pride are lived and honoured every day of the year.

In a world where political climates can often seem bleak, Illinois stands out with its unwavering dedication to human rights, equity, and inclusion. This Pride Month celebration, bursting with life, joy, and purpose, offers a rejuvenating boost to all who believe in and work towards a world that embraces and uplifts every individual, regardless of their identity.