MARK POCAN

2ND DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

ASSISTANT WHIP



313 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-2906

10 East Doty Street, Suite 405

MADISON, WI 53703 (608) 258-9800

POCAN HOUSE GOV

United States House of Representatives

September 1, 2015

The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch The Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

In July, 56 of my Congressional Colleagues and I wrote to the Department of Justice regarding our concerns about state and local officials defying the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Obergfell v. Hodges*. I write today to follow up on that initial letter and to continue urging the Department of Justice to take the appropriate steps to ensure all states and localities act in compliance with this ruling.

Recent events in Kentucky where a county clerk unconstitutionally refused marriage licenses to same sex couples underscores the urgent need for action by the federal government to ensure discrimination does not persist. If this violation of the Constitution is left unchecked in Kentucky, I am deeply concerned that other same-sex couples will face discrimination across the country. Same-sex couples must be afforded immediate and complete access to the rights and responsibilities bestowed by the Supreme Court of the United States without delay. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely.

Mark Pocan

Member of Congress