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Philadelphia Bans Homosexual Bias

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To the cheers of supporters and the dire warnings of opponents, the City Council voted 13 to 2 to make discrimination against homosexuals illegal.

The council passed the legislation despite a last-minute plea from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia to delay the vote and warnings from religious fundamentalists that they will retaliate "at the ballot box."

The bill amends the city's fair practices code to prohibit discrimination against homosexuals in employment, housing and public accommodations.

The measure now goes to Mayor William Green, who has not commented publicly on it.

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