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Target files court papers supporting same-sex marriage in Wisconsin and Indiana

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Target Corp. has filed court papers supporting same-sex marriage in Wisconsin and Indiana, the Minneapolis-based retailer said Tuesday.

Its support of same-sex marriage comes just two years after the [company stayed out of the fight in Minnesota, its home state](#).

Target signed onto an amicus brief in [a case](#) before the U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago. Wisconsin is appealing U.S. District Court Judge [Barbara Crabb](#)'s decision to strike down the state's ban on gay marriage. The case was joined with a similar one in Indiana.

An amicus (of "friend of the court") brief is a legal position filed by a person or organization who is interested in the legal issues of a case but not otherwise involved in it.

"It is our belief that everyone should be treated equally under the law, and that includes rights we believe individuals should have related to marriage," wrote [Jodee Kozlak](#), Target's executive vice president and chief human resources officer.

Target said it already offers comprehensive benefits to LGBT employees and their families.

"We continue to do so today because we believe doing so is right for our team and for our business. But current laws — in places like Wisconsin and Indiana that are addressed in this brief — make it difficult to attract and retain talent," Kozlak wrote in a [Target blog post](#).

"These disparate laws also create confusing and complicated benefits challenges across multiple states."

Nick Halter covers retail and sports business.