

**Statement by Brighton Town Supervisor Sandra Frankel  
March 5, 2005**

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“The Attorney General has clearly advised against the issuance of marriage licenses to same sex couples and has stated that it is a misdemeanor for an official to solemnize a marriage in the absence of a license. I will not commit a misdemeanor by officiating at a wedding in the absence of a legal marriage license,” says Frankel.

Frankel says that the town of Brighton of Brighton will recognize out of state legal unions, including civil unions and same-sex marriages.

“The Town of Brighton will afford out of state legal unions and same-sex marriages with the same rights and be subject to the same legal obligations as all other marriages,” says Frankel.

Frankel also points out that in 2001, the Town of Brighton took a historic step to recognize and respect the ties that bind the diversity of America's national family.

“This is a community that has always promoted inclusion and valued diversity, and in 2001 we became the first town in Monroe County to institute a domestic partner policy,” says Frankel

“Then and now, this policy ensures that all people who are hired by, and work for the Town, are treated fairly and equitably,” she added.