



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
THOMAS M. MENINO

July 20, 2012

Mr. Dan Cathy, President  
Chick-fil-A  
5200 Buffington Road  
Atlanta, GA 30349

To Mr. Cathy:

In recent days you said Chick-fil-A opposes same-sex marriage and said the generation that supports it has an “arrogant attitude.”

Now – incredibly – your company says you are backing out of the same-sex marriage debate. I urge you to back out of your plans to locate in Boston.

You called supporters of gay marriage “prideful”. Here in Boston, to borrow your own words, we are “guilty as charged.” We are indeed full of pride for our support of same sex marriage and our work to expand freedom to all people. We are proud that our state and our city have led the way for the country on equal marriage rights.

I was angry to learn on the heels of your prejudiced statements about your search for a site to locate in Boston. There is no place for discrimination on Boston’s Freedom Trail and no place for your company alongside it. When Massachusetts became the first state in the country to recognize equal marriage rights, I personally stood on City Hall Plaza to greet same sex couples coming here to be married. It would be an insult to them and to our city’s long history of expanding freedom to have a Chick-fil-A across the street from that spot.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Menino  
Mayor, City of Boston

Cc: Steven Binnie  
Carlisle Properties  
26 Daniel Street, Suite 200  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

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