



Swiss Parliament votes in favour of stepchild adoption

Brussels, 17 June 2016

NELFA welcomes today's vote of the Swiss Parliament in favour of stepchild adoption, which passed with 125 vs. 68 votes and 3 abstentions. After the Council of States, the National Council put the focus on the well-being of the children as well, providing them with legal protection regardless of their parents' civil status.

Thousands of children are currently growing up in rainbow families in Switzerland. Yet until now there has been no law recognising their reality or guaranteeing legal protection in case of one parent's disability or death. The new law will also address important issues such as the right of inheritance and orphan's benefits as well as child support in case of a separation of the parents.

NELFA's President Maria von Känel says, **“This is a happy day for all families, and we are glad to see the positive developments in terms of family law. This legislative amendment will rectify a discriminatory situation and grant the right of every child to recognition of his or her family, thereby safeguarding children of rainbow families. We hope this law will soon be adopted. But should there be a referendum, we call on the Swiss population to vote for children's rights and the protection of all families.”**

About NELFA: NELFA is the European platform of LGBTIQ* families associations, bringing together LGBTI parents and parents-to-be from all over Europe. NELFA currently represents 29 organisations in 18 European countries with more than 25 500 members. NELFA is a member of ILGA-Europe and Transgender Europe. <http://www.nelfa.org>

Our new leaflet: http://nelfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NelfaLeafletUpdate2016-05_web.pdf

Our newsletter June 2016 : <http://bit.ly/1Ww0HQS>

International Family Equality Day (IFED): www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org

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