



Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto proposes legalizing gay marriage

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Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto on Tuesday proposed legalizing same-sex marriage throughout Mexico.

"I signed reform initiatives that would write #MarriageEquality into the Constitution and the Federal Civil Code," Pena Nieto tweeted.

Last June, Mexico's Supreme Court struck down state marriage bans as unconstitutional. While its ruling effectively settled the issue – lower courts must follow the court's decision – individual state bans must first be challenged in court before they can be struck down.

Pena Nieto's proposal would change Article 4 of the Mexican Constitution to reflect the Supreme Court's opinion.

In making the announcement on Twitter, Pena Nieto's profile photo was updated to include the rainbow colors.

The Rev. Hugo Valdemar, a spokesman for the Catholic Archdiocese of Mexico City, criticized the proposal as a "distraction" and called on lawmakers to oppose the initiative.

Amending the Mexican Constitution requires a two-thirds majority vote in congress.