

## **HCR 3013**

*A concurrent resolution urging the United States Supreme Court to restore the definition of marriage to a union between one man and one woman*

### **In Opposition**

I oppose this bill in the strongest possible terms. As a Lutheran pastor here in Minot, I have multiple couples in my congregation who have been directly hurt by this bill even making it this far in the legislative process, and it needs to be stopped. It tells members of our community, and people who care about them, that North Dakota does not respect them and doesn't want them here, based on something that is none of their business. This hurts our community, our economy, and teaches our kids that bigotry and hatred based on being different, are good and acceptable qualities.

This bill is not "North Dakota nice" and will make recruiting people to move here even more challenging, hurting our already stretched workforce, and limiting our economy. As a pastor, I have already had multiple conversations with members of my congregation who are sincerely hurt and feeling like they, and their loved ones, are unwanted in the place they grew up and lived their whole lives. This is unacceptable. Please stand up for what is right and decent and oppose this misguided bill.

Rev. Ellery Dykeman

Minot, North Dakota