

I stand in direct opposition of this concurrent resolution urging the United States Supreme Court to restore the definition of marriage to a union between one man and one woman. This is as an American who believes that the choice to marry between any two consenting adults should be allowed in this nation. People will love who they want to love whether laws say this love is legal or not. I also stand within my commitment to pursue education in the great state of North Dakota. Who played a role in leadership amongst many students who come from out of state who are seeking quality education and overall development as a human being in the state of North Dakota. How can North Dakota grow in its academic and pedagogical standing within the educational and career/ commerce community when members who decide to work and learn in our community must now understand that their standing marriages are to be no longer recognized by the state. How are existing same sex marriages supposed to internalize that our highest leadership in the state holds our best interest but still stand against our right to marry as American citizens. I ask you why a young person(like myself) or educator would look to Bismark state college or North Dakota state college or University of North Dakota for our academic and career advancement and foundation if we are/were to learn that our partnerships, families and parents unions are not recognized or given the same procedural legitimacy as our opposite sex counterparts marriages. Same sex marriages pursue marriage for the very same principles and opportunities that opposite sex marriages do. The reasons are infinite for their desire to be married. Just as they are for your families and your own parents' ambition to be married and recognized as married to your neighbors, friends, community and grandparents. To signify a commitment to one another. Young people shape our future whether that be people like me who come to north dakota and look for ways to life my new community up or those that are born and raised here. Will we subject them to leaving our great state in order for their romantic relationships to be granted access to legitimate marriage or allow them the very right this council has pretended to accept of one another as sitting council members. Would you even deny constituents and sitting council members the legitimacy of their relationships. Their families, their weddings, their aspirations as individuals to build a life together and make an impact as such on the greater north dakota legacy.