

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HCR 3013

I urge a “DO NOT PASS” vote.

This resolution is wrong for several reasons, particularly in light of contemporary legal, social, and ethical considerations. Attempting to undermine the Supreme Court’s 2015 decision would bring instability to the principle of stare decisis, which emphasizes the importance of adhering to established legal precedents. Defining marriage exclusively between a man and a woman is discrimination and is nothing more than an attempt to roll back civil rights gains and deny equal treatment under the law. Promoting a legal definition of marriage that aligns with particular (not all) religious views infringes on the separation of church and state, undermining the pluralistic foundation of American democracy. Efforts to restrict marriage rights contributes to social division and conflict, which our country has enough of right now. Families will be negatively impacted creating legal and social instability for children and parents alike. Legislators should be upholding the dignity and rights of ALL individuals as a fundamental principal of human rights. The broader implications will only bring further legal challenges and likely erosion of civil rights. Societal attitudes towards marriage and LGBTQ+ rights have shifted significantly over recent years and many Americans and many Christians, support marriage equality.

Advocating for a resolution to redefine marriage only diverts attention and resources from more pressing issues that will make North Dakota a great state in which to reside.

Please see through this nonsense and do not pass this resolution.

Thank you,

Michele Grenier
Rolette, ND