

Testimony of Tammi Jalowiec
Before the North Dakota Senate
In Opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 3013

March 10, 2025

I write today in opposition to North Dakota House Concurrent Resolution 3013.

The right to marry is a constitutionally protected right for all citizens, including same-sex couples. The United States Supreme Court, in its landmark decision *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015), affirmed that same-sex couples have the right to marry under the Constitution. This ruling is grounded in principles of equal protection and due process under the 14th Amendment. Like all heterosexual couples, same-sex couples deserve the same dignity and respect that comes with marriage. To attempt to overturn or limit this ruling would violate the constitutional rights of same-sex couples.

Policies that exclude or discriminate against same-sex couples and LGBTQ+ individuals negatively impact communities. They create division, make communities less desirable, and drive people away from the state. Such policies would make North Dakota be less competitive in attracting talent and as a result, the economy would suffer.

I know couples in same-sex marriages. Their love for each other and their families harms no one. Yet these couples would experience real harm if HCR 3013 is passed and their constitutional rights are stripped away as a result.

I urge the North Dakota Senate to uphold the Constitution and take a stand for justice, equality, and love and by voting, “No,” on HCR 3013. Please do not allow this harmful resolution to pass.

Sincerely,

Tammi Jalowiec