

The resolution HCR 3013 urging the United States Supreme Court to restore the definition of marriage to a union between one man and one woman does not change or improve the value of the marriage, rights or legal benefits of heterosexual couples. This resolution will however, cause harm to our current or prospective citizens in North Dakota that are in a same-sex marriage.

As a resident of North Dakota, I do not agree with HCR 3013. Although HCR 3013 has no direct legal impact, the indirect outcome is harmful. It sends a clear message to our same-sex couple families that they are not wanted or safe here to be in committed relationships or raise children here. This resolution causes an atmosphere of fear and anxiety for same-sex couples and their children. Many of the same-sex families I know personally in Minot are from North Dakota and chose to stay/return and raise their children here. Speaking to several of the families, this resolution has caused them to question whether they are safe here and whether they should even live in ND. These are families that are business owners, teachers, doctors, and active members of our communities. Our communities are stronger and better for having their part in it. Please vote no to this resolution as passing this resolution only brings harm to current and future North Dakota citizens.