

Chair Larson, Vice Chair Paulson, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I submit the following testimony **in opposition** to HCR 3013.

I urge you to reject HCR 3013 and instead stand for the fundamental principle that all Americans—including the North Dakotans you represent—deserve equal rights under the law, regardless of whom they love.

I understand the rationale some lawmakers may be using to justify their votes “This is only a resolution, it doesn’t actually impact the laws of ND.” But resolutions like this do **real** harm—not just to those in same-sex marriages, but to our entire state. It sends a loud and clear message of ‘you are not welcome here.’

North Dakota has real challenges to focus on. Our legislative time and energy should be spent on topics that actually matter to the people of this state, not on divisive resolutions such as these that deny dignity and respect to our own citizens.

Please give HCR 3013 a **DO NOT PASS** recommendation, and let’s get back to the more meaningful business of the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Mathern

District 27, Fargo, ND