

Dear Committee Members,

As a life long resident of North Dakota and as your constituent, I urge you to represent North Dakota residents well, and vote no on bill 3013. There are too many benefits of having same sex couples reside in our state. If this bill passes, they will be forced to take their skills, families, and income elsewhere. Here are just a few benefits for having legal same-sex marriages in North Dakota:

Continuing to recognize the legality of same-sex marriage can improve North Dakota's reputation as a progressive state that supports human rights and equality. It could also help attract people and businesses that prioritize inclusivity.

Legal recognition can provide protections for children raised by same-sex couples, including inheritance, custody, and healthcare rights. It also fosters stability and security for families, as they are legally recognized.

Supporting legal same-sex marriage can be seen as a reflection of North Dakota's progress toward creating a more inclusive, tolerant, and compassionate society, where individuals are free to love who they choose without facing legal barriers.

These are just a few reasons why continuing to have legal same-sex marriage in North Dakota has a positive impact on both individuals and the state as a whole.

Please vote no on HCR 3013.

Johanna Mongeon  
Rolette ND 58366

Dear Senator

As a life long resident of North Dakota and as your constituent, I urge you to consider these several financial benefits that come with having same-sex couples in our state. Some of which would only benefit North Dakota if same-sex marriage continues to be legalized. Therefore, I would encourage you to vote no on 3013. Here are a few:

**1. Increased Tax Revenue.** With the legalization of same-sex marriage, same-sex couples gain access to tax benefits such as joint tax filings, which can encourage more couples to get married, thus increasing the number of people paying marriage-related taxes, including licensing fees, property taxes, and sales tax on wedding-related purchases. This results in higher tax revenues for the state.

**2. Increased Consumer Spending.** Legalizing same-sex marriage contributes to increased consumer spending, particularly in industries that support weddings and family life. For example, retail, homeownership, and healthcare industries may see increased revenue as more couples settle in the state, buy homes, and spend money on products and services for their families.

**3. Attracting Skilled Workers and Businesses.** States that support equality and inclusivity may be more attractive to businesses, particularly tech, creative, and other progressive industries that prioritize diversity. This, in turn, could attract more professionals—especially those in same-sex relationships—who may seek to live in a more welcoming environment. An influx of highly skilled workers could boost local innovation and economic growth.

**4. Long-Term Economic Stability.** Legal recognition of same-sex couples' rights provides a more stable and predictable legal environment. This stability can lead to long-term economic benefits as same-sex couples invest in property, businesses, and the local community. They are more likely to

contribute to the local economy through spending and investments when they have the same legal rights as heterosexual couples.

**5. Positive Image and Tourism.** A state that supports same-sex marriage is often viewed as progressive and welcoming, which can enhance its reputation on the national and international stage. This positive image can attract tourists, and individuals looking to relocate to a state that supports diversity and inclusion. As a result, this may boost sectors like tourism, retail, and hospitality.

In short, legalizing same-sex marriage can provide both direct and indirect financial benefits to a state through increased consumer spending, tax revenue, and economic growth from attracting businesses and skilled workers. These financial benefits could help improve the overall economy of North Dakota.

Please advise me of the actions you intend to take with respect to this bill. Thank you for considering my views. I look forward to your response.

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