

Everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, should have the right to marry the person they love. Outlawing gay marriage denies LGBTQ+ individuals the same legal rights and recognition that heterosexual couples have, which is a violation of basic principles of equality and human dignity.

North Dakota House Concurrent Resolution 3013 (HCR 3013) is a harmful attempt to undermine the constitutional rights of same-sex couples and challenge the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges decision. This resolution, which seeks to redefine marriage as a union exclusively between one man and one woman, is not only an attack on the LGBTQ+ community but also a direct violation of the principles of equality, civil rights, and legal precedent.

HCR 3013 fosters discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals and sends a harmful message that their relationships are invalid or inferior. Marriage equality has real-world implications for families, including rights related to healthcare, inheritance, adoption, taxation, and social security benefits.

Attempting to strip away these rights would cause direct harm to thousands of legally married same-sex couples and their families in North Dakota and beyond.

I strongly urge a "Do Not Pass" vote.

Dr. Michelle Edenberg

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