

The House Concurrent Resolution No. 3013 should not be supported or passed by North Dakota. Marriage is not reserved for just a male and female. Any two consenting adults should have the right to marry, no matter their sex. Denying them that right discriminates against them, removes their rights as American citizens, and moves our state of North Dakota backwards instead of forwards.

North Dakota is always questioning why younger citizens choose to move out of state instead of buying a house and making North Dakota their home. Resolutions, such as this one, are a big reason for that. Why should someone stay in a state that they don't feel welcome or supported in, or even discriminated against in? Allowing all North Dakota citizen, no matter who they desire to marry, to feel like North Dakota is a safe place to live is the bare minimum to make our state somewhere people want to live. Otherwise, they will move away to somewhere they feel accepted. Taking their skills, their kindness, and their families, to other states instead of staying and creating a stronger North Dakota.

Defining marriage as just between a man and a women, doesn't strengthen the idea of marriage, but instead weakens it. There are so many loving, amazing couples and families in North Dakota that do not fall under this Resolution's idea of marriage. They contribute to their society, work hard at their jobs, better their community, and raise amazing families. The state of North Dakota should not be able to tell them what they are doing is wrong and against the law.

This resolution wants the decision to go back to the States, but the Supreme Court already made a decision with Obergefell v. Hodges. This resolution talks a lot about how things have been done for thousand or hundred of years, however doing things the way they have always been is not always the right answer. Instead of going backwards, North Dakota should be working on moving forward. Moving forward in making our state a great place to live, for everyone who wants to live here.

Please do not pass or support this resolution that fails to protect and support North Dakota citizens. It is time to move forward to a better future for North Dakota and everyone who lives here.