

Esteemed Members of the 69th Legislative Assembly,

Our names are Mr. and Mrs. Ethan and Montana Ackman and we are writing to you today in regards to our great concern regarding HCR 3013 and, as such, would like to strongly encourage you to give HCR 3013 a "Do Not Pass" recommendation and to vote in opposition to this bill should it appear on the Senate floor.

We are greatly concerned as this bill seeks to claim that the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) misinterpreted the Constitution in the ruling they made on Obergefell v. Hodges. However, we firmly believe that HCR 3013 directly contradicts with the spirit of the United States Constitution as laid out by the founding fathers and directly contradicts the Declaration of Independence which states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." The Supreme Court of the United States of America correctly ruled that the right to marriage is the right of all Americans regardless of their sex and the sex of their intended spouse.

HCR 3013 seeks to deny that right and wrongfully indicates that the SCOTUS's ruling on Obergefell v Hodges was "not respecting the decision of the founding fathers of our constitution", when the evidence, as laid out in the Declaration of Independence, as written by our founding fathers, seems to indicate the exact opposite of this sentiment and, as such, it can be reasonably understood that, should they have the context of the world in which we live today, the founding fathers would believe that the right to marry the person of one's choosing, regardless of the sex of those who wish to be married would be one of the truths that they hold "to be self-evident" as they believed that among those "inalienable rights" were both "Life" and "the pursuit of Happiness." Both of these truths would be included within the right to marry the person of one's choosing regardless of their sex and the sex of their intended spouse.

We would like to also draw to this assembly's attention that the 117th Congress of the United States of America passed H.R. 8404, which is also known as the Respect for Marriage Act which states, as quoted from Congress' website, "This act provides statutory authority for same-sex and interracial marriages." As such, the sentiment stated in lines 17 through 19 of HCR 3013 "WHEREAS, the judicial branch of government is authorized to interpret the law but it does not have the authority to legislate from the bench to enact policy decisions, as legislative powers are properly vested in the legislative branch of government; and..." seems to ignore the additional oversight provided by the Congress of the United States of America.

As such, we wanted to make this body aware of the additional Congressional oversight and legislation which sets the precedent for the continued legality of same-sex marriage within the United States of America and thus this legislative body, in passing HCR 3013, would be directly opposing the law of our land as dictated by the 117th Congress of the United States of America as laid out in H.R. 8404

Bearing all of this in mind, we would strongly encourage you to give a "Do Not Pass" recommendation on HCR 3013 and to vote in opposition of this bill should it appear on the Senate floor.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Ackman