

Testimony Opposing HCR 3013
Karen Eriksmoen, Fargo, ND, District 11
Senate Judiciary Committee
March 11, 2025

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

Even though this is a resolution and not a law, it is a message to the residents of North Dakota and every other state that LGBTQ+ folks aren't welcome in North Dakota! Is that really the message we want to send from our state?

- HCR 3013 is unwelcoming, discriminatory and harmful. As we heard from Rep. Austin Foss, this is unwelcoming to many families in North Dakota and is harmful to them and for our state. It discriminates against couples and families who live and work here and does not support our belief in equality for all. What right do some in our state have to decide what a marriage and family should look like? The Supreme Court does not believe that it is a right and neither does a majority of those who live in North Dakota.
- HCR 3013 would have social and financial repercussions. Same sex marriage has been a part of our society for many years. We have families with children and couples who have been together since being recognized as legal. Promoting the dissolution of these families and marriages would be devastating. Dismantling these families because others don't think they should be allowed to exist...what could possibly be beneficial?
- HCR 3013 would have an emotional toll. This recommendation to the federal government to change the law which makes marriages legal between two men or between two women is thoughtless and damaging to those who have a loving relationship and have committed their lives to one another. The emotional damage that taking away this right, to be married to the person you love, would be heartbreaking and dangerous.
- HCR 3013 attacks our family and feels very personal. Members of my family have been together for over 25 years in a marriage that is still going strong. We support and honor all the marriages in our family whether they are between a man and a woman, a woman and a woman and a man and a man and we have them all! Finding the person you want to spend your life with, in a marriage, is nothing short of a miracle.

I strongly oppose HCR 3013 and urge you to vote DO NOT PASS.

Thank you for your consideration,

Karen Eriksmoen, 1913 5th Street South, Fargo, ND 58103