

March 11, 2025

Chairman Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to HCR 3013.

I am a proud, lifelong North Dakotan, dedicated to building my career and my family here. Nothing has made me feel less pride in my home state than HCR 3013. That the resolution has even made it this far in the legislative process is disappointing and disheartening.

HCR 3013 is a piece of legislation that functionally serves no purpose other than to cause division and alienate LGBTQ+ individuals in our state.

There is no legitimate means for the North Dakota State Legislature to challenge a Supreme Court Decision. As you know, the Supreme Court may only overturn a decision through constitutional amendment or a new ruling. This resolution does neither of those.

The only thing HCR 3013 *does* accomplish is to send a message that our LGBTQ+ friends, family, neighbors, and community members are not welcome in North Dakota. It sends a message that their marriages and families are not valued the same as those of straight couples.

I, along with the majority of North Dakotans, firmly disagree with that message and I urge you to vote for a Do Not Pass Recommendation.

Let's start spreading a new message to LGBTQ+ North Dakotans - you are welcome, you are loved, and you are essential to the fabric of our communities. We're proud to call you neighbors.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Rachel Richter Lordemann, District 45, West Fargo