

I am writing in **OPPOSITION** to **HCR3013**.

What purpose does this resolution bring other than to TAKE AWAY the civil rights of individuals?

Regardless of your religious beliefs, the government's role is to protect the civil rights of ALL citizens, and marriage is a fundamental civil right. There should be separation of church and state because as elected officials, you are duty bound to remain neutral and ensure that all citizens are treated equally under the law.

The state has a responsibility to recognize marriages as a civil institution. **Marriage is not just a religious sacrament; it is also a legal contract** that provides benefits and protections under the law which include tax breaks, inheritance rights, healthcare benefits, and child custody arrangements.

I do not believe this resolution comes from a place that has good intention. What do you stand to gain from supporting it?

Love without condition. Talk without bad intention. Give without a reason. Care for people without expectation.

Live and let live. North Dakotans deserve better than this.

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