

To the Honorable Members of the Senate,

I am writing to you as a mother, a business owner, a community member, and a person who believes in the fundamental rights and dignity of all people. Today, I stand in firm opposition to the proposed legislation that seeks to define marriage as solely between one man and one woman. This bill is not just a legal matter—it is a direct attack on the lives, identities, and futures of LGBTQ+ individuals, including my own daughter.

My daughter is 20 years old. She is kind, intelligent, and deeply compassionate. She dreams, she works hard, and she contributes to the world around her. But most importantly, she deserves the same rights and recognition under the law as anyone else. To even debate whether her love, her relationships, and her future family should be acknowledged and protected by the government is not just disheartening—it is devastating.

This is not about politics. It is about real people. It is about my daughter, your neighbors, your constituents, and the countless families who will be directly harmed by this legislation. Laws should be built on principles of justice and equality, not exclusion and discrimination.

Restricting marriage rights does not strengthen families—it fractures them. It tells LGBTQ+ individuals that their love is lesser, their commitments unworthy, and their existence something to be debated rather than respected. It sends a message to young people like my daughter that their government does not see them as equals. And I refuse to let that stand without speaking up.

As a mother, I will always fight for my daughter's right to live, love, and build a future free from discrimination. I urge you to reject this bill and stand on the right side of history. Marriage is about love, commitment, and family—not government-imposed limitations on who deserves it.

Please, I implore you: do not let this bill pass. Do not let my daughter, and countless others like her, be told by their government that they are second-class citizens.

With hope and urgency,

Andrea Grigsby

1305 N 14th ST

Bismarck, ND 58501

701-595-9554