

Hope Clark  
Minot, North Dakota

12 March 2025

To the Honorable Members of the North Dakota Legislature,

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to you as someone who has lived in North Dakota my entire life. I was born in Grand Forks at United Hospital, moved to Williston after the flood in 1997, and later came to Minot for the Quentin Burdick Job Corps program. That's where I earned my GED and learned the skills I needed to build a life here. Minot has been my home ever since, and I've stayed because my family is in the area.

I'm also gay, and I have to tell you—I felt angry and betrayed when I heard about House Concurrent Resolution 3013. Seeing the House vote in favor of a resolution asking the Supreme Court to overturn marriage equality felt like a slap in the face. What message does that send to me, my friends, and my family? That we don't belong here? That our marriages don't matter? That North Dakota doesn't believe in freedom and fairness for all its people?

I know some people have personal or religious beliefs about marriage, and I respect that. But the government shouldn't be in the business of taking rights away from people who are just trying to live their lives. Overturning marriage equality wouldn't help anyone—it would only hurt families like mine.

I love North Dakota. This is my home. And I'm asking you—please vote "Do Not Pass" on HCR 3013. Stand up for all North Dakotans, including the LGBTQ+ people who live, work, and raise families here.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Hope Clark  
Minot, North Dakota