

Chairwoman Larson, members of the Judiciary Committee, and members of the Senate,

I'm writing in **opposition to HCR 3013** and encourage you to do the same.

The law of marriage was created and remains to be a legally recognized union of two people as partners in a personal relationship and includes civil rights such as tax benefits, medical benefits, and other legalities/benefits given to married persons. The law has evolved over time to give these rights to **all citizens** (to women, to interracial couples, and to the LGBTQ community).

Whether a marriage should be a blessed union is a decision for churches/religions. The state does not need to debate this aspect as the civil rights are the same when you get a marriage license regardless of your ceremony being at a temple, park, church, or the courthouse. This is also not about reproductive biology as we're not debating science, and the state's job is not to debate religious intent. Those arguments have nothing to do with the legal rights and definition of marriage.

Additionally, what benefit does the general public receive by reversing this law? How are they personally affected in a legal and civil sense?

Again, I respectfully encourage you to oppose HCR 3013.

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