

In opposition to HCR 3013

March 12, 2025

Attn: Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in opposition of HCR 3013. This is a fruitless resolution that does not carry any weight with the Supreme Court, but it *does* send a message to your constituents and to those outside of North Dakota: “You are not welcome here.”

It seems as though some North Dakota legislatures think of the LGBTQ+ community as a small, minority population. While it is true it is minority population, that cannot be confused as small. A Gallup poll from this year estimates that 9.3% of the American population identifies as part of the LGBTQ+ community. But listing a percentage does not do the scale justice. According to the U.S. Census website, the current U.S. population is 341,465,550 people. This means that there are an estimated 31,756,296 people in the United States that identify as LGBTQ+. To put this into perspective, 31,756,296 is a larger population than:

- Every state besides California
- Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland *combined*
- North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Montana, Idaho, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Wyoming *combined*
- The twenty largest cities in the United States *combined*
- 11x the U.S. active military population
- 2x the number of U.S. military veterans
- 8x the U.S. and Canadian Lutheran population
- 9x the number of public school teachers in the U.S.
- 2x the number of U.S. manufacturing employees
- 24x the number of licensed U.S. attorneys
- 40x the population of North Dakota

This is not a small population. Any act against this community impacts an unimaginable amount of people. And if the Gallup poll is any indicator, it will only continue to grow. The number of openly LGBTQ+ members has increased dramatically through each generation thanks to things like wider public acceptance, anti-discrimination laws, and marriage equality.

Even though this resolution may not have any immediate impact, it is still appalling that some of our legislatures believe they are within their right to pry marriage equality away from a group with over *40 times* the population of North Dakota. It is a gross overreach that does not even reflect the opinion of the majority of your constituents.

I urge you to reject HCR 3013. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

/s/ Maria Mack