

Chairwoman Larson and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in strong opposition to HCR 3013. I decided to write this testimony after I had listened to the heart wrenching speech on the House floor by Representative Austin Foss. Representative Foss truly showed courage when addressing the house to talk about this concurrent resolution and how this resolution was a message to the world that people who are LGBTQ+ are not welcome in our state.

Marriage equality has been federal law in the United States since 2015. A 2022 [Public Religion Research Institute](#) (PRRI) opinion poll found that 66% of North Dakota residents supported same-sex marriage, while 34% opposed it and 1% were unsure.

The number of citizens testifying in opposition to this resolution in comparison to those who are in favor speaks volumes on the thoughts of North Dakotans. We support our LGBTQ+ community as should you by defeating this horrific resolution. I am proud to be one of the over 1,000 North Dakotans who signed a letter that ran in newspapers across the state. The letter states: On Monday, February 24, the North Dakota House of Representatives, on a 52-40 vote, passed a resolution urging the United States Supreme Court to “restore the definition of marriage to a union between one man and one woman.” We, the undersigned residents of North Dakota, are angered and saddened by this action. We know this does not reflect the will of North Dakota voters and we urge the North Dakota Senate to vote NO when this resolution comes to their chamber.

To our family, friends, and neighbors in the LGBTQ+ community, we see you. We love you. And we want you to stay in North Dakota. We are here to fight alongside you for your right to thrive in your own communities. Whether you grew up here or made a choice to move here, you belong here.

To our legislators who are choosing to waste taxpayers’ time and money on hateful, unnecessary legislation: we urge you to refocus your energy on efforts that actually benefit and improve the lives of your constituents. This resolution – alongside the effort to allow harmful conversion therapy practices – is not it. You work for the people of North Dakota, and we demand better.

I urge you to stand with the people of North Dakota and encourage a do not pass on HCR 3013.

Sargianna Wutzke

District 30-Bismarck