

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 3013, which urges the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn *Obergefell v. Hodges* and strip same-sex couples of their right to marry. This resolution is not only an attack on the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals but also a step backward for the state of North Dakota.

Marriage equality has brought stability to countless families, strengthened communities, and affirmed the dignity of all Americans, regardless of whom they love. HCR 3013, by seeking to revoke these rights, signals that North Dakota is willing to enshrine discrimination into its legislative record. This is not the message we should be sending to residents, businesses, or the next generation of North Dakotans.

Furthermore, encouraging the Supreme Court to revisit settled precedent undermines the principle of equal protection under the law. The justices in *Obergefell* recognized that marriage is a fundamental right that should not be denied based on sexual orientation. Overturning that decision would cause profound harm, destabilizing families, and treating LGBTQ+ citizens as second-class.

HCR 3013 does nothing to improve the lives of North Dakotans. Instead, it wastes legislative time on a measure that will only drive people—especially young professionals and students—away from our state. If we want North Dakota to thrive, we must embrace inclusivity, not exclusion.

Sincerely,
Elijah Westerfield