

Hancock Maine  
Las Vegas Nevada  
Las Angeles California  
War road Minnesota  
Lacon Alabama  
Twin falls Idaho  
Ronan Montana  
Culver City California  
Haslet Texas  
Houston Texas  
Torrance California  
Brooklyn park Minnesota

These are the towns and cities across America who have submitted testimony in favor of passing this resolution. Now, as far as I'm concerned, the people in question who submitted these are not a business owner in Mapleton, North Dakota they're not a taxpayer from Tioga, North Dakota. They aren't somebody who will be volunteering their time to pick up litter in the ditches along I 94. They aren't a homeowner in Mandan, North Dakota looking to keep their yard and street nice for the betterment of their town. These people don't have pride in North Dakota.

First, It is up to you to decide if you want out of state interest affecting your decision on how to vote on this bill.

Now, if you dig even deeper into the in favor testimony that has been submitted, if you put a filter on words such as religion, Bible, Jesus, etc. there will be zero left standing. Not one single testimony includes an argument that isn't based on religion. I am not here to argue religion, as I am a believer myself. But I am not of the opinion that my religious beliefs should affect anybody else's life.

Marriage is a religious sacrament to some, and it isn't to others. This is fact. To obtain a marriage license is a legal process not a religious process. You get it from the clerk of court, not from a priest or a pastor.

The way you vote on this bill affects every day, North Dakotans who may want to just keep working hard, paying their taxes, raising a family being involved in volunteer and charitable organizations, and remaining unbothered. If you vote in favor of this resolution it gives a signal to the current same sex marriages that they are not welcome here. It's signals to the same sex couples who are in relationships that their relationship should not be allowed to go to the next step of marriage, and it signals to kids & adults who are in the closet, afraid to be their true selves that they will not be welcome in this state. It is quite a shame that a body of people who may not know what it is like, to be able to send such a strong signal to something they don't understand. I am asking today for you to oppose this resolution and vote no.

The damage has already been done last month when the house overwhelmingly favored this hate filled resolution. Our state made headlines we made waves and we caused more damage to a community that is already suffering from being a cultural war football being kicked around since 2012 and long before. This is your one chance at voting the correct way, and gaining back a small sliver of confidence to your constituents. I emphasize small sliver. This will be a small step forward after a gigantic step backwards. There will be more work to do after this, so I hope that nobody will be under the assumption that this will fix the damage that was caused by this even being a discussion in the first place.

I am proud to be North Dakotan and I am proud to be an involved citizen and I don't want you guys to have the ability to take that pride away from me. I want to contribute to the state and not feel as if I have to leave. I have a lot to offer as I am only 24. I am afraid that if you guys vote yes to send the signal to the highest court of the land that the state will lose a lot of high value citizens in return for nothing. Talk about a bad trade deal.  
All of this chatter & all of this debate for nothing to happen except a net loss for North Dakota.

Thank you for your time,  
Kaylee Barbie