

THE WEST VIRGINIA MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT

A Special Project of the West Virginia Family Foundation, an Affiliate of American Family Association



URGENT CALL TO ACTION! PROTECT WEST VIRGINIA MARRIAGE!

West Virginia's Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was enacted on April 4, 2000 to protect "one man-one woman" marriage policy. On March 6, 2004, the ACLU challenged the DOMA law before the WV Supreme Court of Appeals and came within one vote of overturning it.

Because **HJR-106 "The Marriage Protection Amendment"** died in the House on February 15, 2006, WVFF successfully found sponsors in the WV State Senate who introduced **SJR-12 "The Marriage Protection Amendment"**. This constitutional amendment clearly defines marriage as "one man-one woman" and would insulate the institution of marriage from the reach of activist courts. The amendment would be placed on the November 2006 ballot for voter approval to strengthen West Virginia's "one man-one woman" marriage policy.

The key for passage of (SJR-12) is twofold: First, it is absolutely critical that Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin (D-Logan) be contacted and asked to sponsor and support the (SJR-12) "The Marriage Protection Amendment". Second, and equally as important, is to contact Senate Judiciary Chairman Jeffrey V. Kessler (D- Marshall) and ask him to put (SJR-12) on the agenda in Judiciary Committee and allow a fair hearing and vote on this legislation. Tell Kessler that on an issue so vital and important as protecting traditional marriage, the only decent and moral course of action is to allow the voters to decide in November if they want to strengthen West Virginia's "one man-one woman" policy by adding it to West Virginia's state constitution.

We have already secured the necessary votes in the Senate for passage but this won't happen if Senator Kessler refuses to allow (SJR-12) to be considered in Judiciary Committee and denies the full senate an opportunity to vote on this legislation.

Take Action Now! Tomblin-304- 357-7801 E-mail: spres@mail.wvnet.edu / Kessler-304-357-7880 E-mail: kessler@mail.wvnet.edu

1. Contact Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin immediately and request him to sponsor and support SJR-12. Ask him to help us get a fair hearing on this legislation in Senate Judiciary Committee and to get it to the floor for a full vote by the Senate. Tell him marriage is the basic building block of every civilization and you want the ultimate protection of this sacred institution by allowing voters to decide on this amendment in November.
2. Contact Senate Judiciary Chairman Jeffrey Kessler and request him to place SJR-12 "The Marriage Protection Amendment" on the agenda in his committee and allow this legislation to be voted on. Tell him not to hold hostage such an important piece of legislation.
3. Contact your senators on the list below and urge them to support SJR-12 "The Marriage Protection Amendment".

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TODAY!

Senator Michael Oliverio (District 13)

E-mail: cglagola@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7919

or 1-877-565-3447

Senator Roman Prezioso (District 13)

E-mail: cglagola@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7961

or 1-877-565-3447

Senator Jon Blair Hunter (District 14)

E-mail: senhunter@mountain.net

Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7995

or 1-877-565-3447

Senator M. Minear (District 14)

E-mail: smminear@aol.com

Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7914

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Timothy R. Ennis (District 2)

E-mail: tennis@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3192

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Jack Yost (District 2)

E-mail: jyost@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3350

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Dave Pethtel (District 5)

E-mail: dpethtel@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3149

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Jeffrey L. Tansil (District 42)

Email: jtansill@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3179

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Mike Caputo (District 43)

Email: caputo@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3367

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Linda Longstreth (District 43)

Email: llongstr@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3118

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Tim Manchin (District 43)

Email: tmanchin@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3170

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Robert D. Beach (District 44)

Email: rbeach@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3112

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Cindy Frich (District 44)

Email: cfrich@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3125

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Nancy Houston (District 44)

Email: nhouston@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3173

or 1-877-565-3447

Delegattee Charlene Marshall (District 44)

Email: chmarsh@mail.wvnet.edu

Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3153

or 1-877-565-3447

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