

The U.S. Senate may vote this week - as early as TOMORROW - on the so-called "Respect for Marriage Act," attempting to use the lame-duck session to advance this harmful bill before the new Congressional session begins in January. **TAKE ACTION NOW.** 

This federal legislation would not only force a redefinition of marriage in all laws and regulations in Minnesota and across the nation, but it would:

- 1. Further exacerbate already-existing attacks on religious liberty due to the legalization of same-sex marriage,
- 2. Put licensed ministers who perform marriage ceremonies at risk,
- 3. Threaten the tax-exempt status of faith-based adoption and foster-care agencies and put a greater target on these ministries for frivolous litigation, curtailing or ending their ability to help children find homes.
- 4. Effectively deputizes activist groups to sue religious individuals, organizations, and businesses that operate according to their sincerely held religious belief that marriage is between one man and one woman.

Some congressmen are proposing a substitute amendment to "fix" the religious liberty concerns but it would not eliminate the far-reaching negative consequences for individuals, nonprofit ministries and businesses, many of whom are already being attacked for their belief in marriage.

Please contact Minnesota's two U.S. Senators, Tina Smith (D) and Amy Klobuchar (D) and ask them to oppose the so-called "Respect for Marriage Act" and any attempted phony amendments that only give the illusion of protecting religious freedom.

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