



**Republican
National
Committee**

Counsel's Office

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was written to prohibit the federal government from taking discriminatory action against a person on the basis that such person believes or acts in accordance with a religious belief or moral conviction; including that: (1) marriage is or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman, or (2) sexual relations are properly reserved to such a marriage;

WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution should therefore protect Americans from the action of a narrow 5 to 4 majority of the Supreme Court who have upheld gay marriage without regard to the democratic rights of the people or the states, and without any religious liberty protections;

WHEREAS, The Chief Justice of the United States, John Roberts, has pointed to the serious religious liberty consequences that may stem from the decision: "Today's decision . . . creates serious doubts about religious liberty . . . Indeed the Solicitor General candidly acknowledged that the tax exemptions of some religious organizations would be in question if they opposed gay marriage";

WHEREAS, Many Americans, including Melissa Klein, Kelvin Cochran, Barronelle Stutzman, Angela McCaskill, Brendan Eich, Frank Turek, Scott McAdams, Tom Emmer, Jack Phillips, Elaine Huguenin, Betty and Richard Odgaard, Cynthia and Robert Gifford are losing their livelihoods or are being disciplined for courageously dissenting from gay marriage orthodoxy;

WHEREAS, Many on the Left exhibit an intensifying hatred and intolerance for gay marriage dissenters, with several major Democratic senators considering stripping Christian schools of their tax-exempt status; and

WHEREAS, Religious schools, colleges and universities, and other charities, could lose their First Amendment rights and their right to equal access to government benefits, including 501(c)(3) status, student aid, and government contracts; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Republican National Committee urges Congress to pass and the President to sign The First Amendment Defense Act to protect the rights of believers to equal treatment by the government of The United States of America.

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