



Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave
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Marriage Is In Clear and Present Danger

Rep. Musgrave continues fight for Federal Marriage Amendment

Washington, DC: Today, the Massachusetts Supreme Court decided it is unconstitutional to limit marriage to a union of a man and a woman. The potential of this disturbing decision has been a concern of Rep. Marilyn Musgrave (CO-04), who recently introduced the Federal Marriage Amendment bill in the U.S. Congress to amend the Constitution and define marriage as a union between a woman and a man. Musgrave introduced this legislation in May 2003 to counter judicial activism, as witnessed today in Massachusetts.

“Today, the time-honored institution of marriage, considered a lifelong union between a woman and a man, has come under fire again,” said Musgrave. “Gay marriage activists that have been shopping around for judges willing to overturn this tradition finally found their sympathetic bench. Overnight these judges pulled up the rug and found a new right for gay marriage.”

Musgrave’s legislation, if passed, would amend the U.S. Constitution to state: *“Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this Constitution or the constitution of any State, nor state or federal law, shall be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups.”*

To pass, Musgrave’s bill needs to have the approval of two-thirds of the Congress, ratification by 38 state legislatures. Currently, the Federal Marriage Amendment has over 100 bi-partisan co-sponsors in the House, as well as the support of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and Republican Conference Chairman Senator Rick Santorum.

In addition, Musgrave is joined by a diverse, bi-partisan and multi-ethnic group of supporters who are fighting in the defense of marriage and for the passage of a Federal Marriage Amendment. This group consists of leaders within the Black, Hispanic, and Asian community along with religious leaders from the Muslim, Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant faiths.

“Homosexual activists used un-elected judges to redefine marriage as it is traditionally known for over 200 years in the United States,” said Musgrave. “I introduced the Federal Marriage Amendment to preserve this institution and ensure the question of same sex marriage is placed in the hands of the American people and their elected representatives.

“After all, the sanctity of this institution, with the presence of one man and one woman committed to each other, is by far the best environment for raising children.”

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Marilyn Musgrave was elected to the United States House of Representatives in January 2003, and she represents Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. Musgrave is a member of the House Committees on Agriculture, Education and the Workforce, and Small Business. To learn more about Rep. Musgrave please visit her official website at <http://www.house.gov/musgrave>.