

**Wally  
Herger**  
Congressman

**2nd District - California**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Herger Backs Marriage Protection Amendment**

(WASHINGTON D.C.) -- Congressman Herger today voted for H.J. Res. 88, the Marriage Protection Amendment. He cosponsored the amendment, which would declare that marriage in the United States shall consist of one man and one woman, and would ensure that only elected legislators could add to the definition of marriage. The vote on the constitutional amendment was 236 to 187, thus failing to secure the two-thirds majority necessary to pass the House. Herger made the following comment after the vote:

"I strongly believe that marriage should consist of one man and one woman only," Herger stated. "For thousands of years, virtually all cultures have recognized traditional marriage as the bedrock of healthy families, and study after study demonstrates that children typically do best when they are raised by a married mom and dad. I'm very worried that fundamentally changing the definition of marriage could have negative consequences, and would only aggravate the assault on the institution of marriage we've seen in recent decades.

"Unfortunately, un-elected and unaccountable judges have increasingly demonstrated their desire to dictate marriage policy," continued Herger. "I firmly believe that activist judges should not be able to overturn the legal definition of marriage as defined in law. Thus, I strongly support the amendment's second purpose of keeping marriage policy in the hands of the people and their elected legislators -- and out of the reach of activist judges.

Herger concluded, "I believe we can and must be tolerant of others while at the same time protecting the longstanding structure of an institution so critical to our nation's children and society at large. As such, I was disappointed that the Marriage Protection Amendment failed to pass the House, and will continue to work in support of it in the future," concluded Herger.

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