

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
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SR 29

4
5 By: Senators Rapert, Bledsoe, Burnett, Caldwell, A. Clark, J. Dismang, J. English, Files, J. Hendren,
6 Hester, Hickey, Holland, J. Hutchinson, Irvin, J. Key, B. Sample, D. Sanders, G. Stubblefield, E.
7 Williams, J. Woods

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9 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

10 REAFFIRMING THE SENATE'S COMMITMENT TO DEFINE
11 MARRIAGE AS THE UNION OF A MAN AND A WOMAN AND URGING
12 THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, THE UNITED STATES SUPREME
13 COURT, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO
14 UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.

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17 **Subtitle**

18 REAFFIRMING THE SENATE'S COMMITMENT TO
19 DEFINE MARRIAGE AS THE UNION OF A MAN AND
20 A WOMAN AND URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS,
21 U.S. SUPREME COURT, AND PRESIDENT OF THE
22 UNITED STATES TO UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE
23 DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.

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26 WHEREAS, marriage is the building block upon which our society is
27 based; and

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29 WHEREAS, in November 2004, 75% of Arkansas voters expressed their
30 collective intent to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman by
31 adopting Amendment 83 to the Arkansas Constitution; and

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33 WHEREAS, support of traditional marriage was affirmed nationally
34 through the enactment of the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996, 1 U.S.C. § 7,
35 signed into law by the president, Public Law No. 104-199 § 3(a), and is
36 specifically recognized by the laws of 41 states; and



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2 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral
3 arguments in cases that challenge the constitutionality of the federal
4 Defense of Marriage Act; and

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6 WHEREAS, the power to regulate marriage is a power reserved to the
7 people that lies within the domain of state legislatures and not with the
8 courts; and

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10 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court should uphold the federal
11 Defense of Marriage Act and respect the constitutional authority of citizens
12 and their elected officials to make marriage policy; and

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14 WHEREAS, while the Senate of the State of Arkansas recognizes that
15 families take many forms, the institution of marriage itself is sacred and
16 must be upheld in its traditional form; and

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18 WHEREAS, the United States Congress and the Arkansas Congressional
19 Delegation should support an amendment to the United States Constitution that
20 requires all states to recognize marriage as the union of one man and one
21 woman,

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23 NOW THEREFORE,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
25 ARKANSAS:

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27 THAT the Senate reaffirms its commitment to define marriage as the
28 union of one man and one woman and urges the United States Supreme Court to
29 uphold the Defense of Marriage Act and the President of the United States to
30 enforce the law defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate urges the Arkansas Congressional
33 Delegation, Senator John Boozman, Senator Mark Pryor, Representative Rick
34 Crawford, Representative Tim Griffin, Representative Steve Womack, and
35 Representative Tom Cotton, to propose a United States Constitutional
36 Amendment that recognizes marriage as the union of one man and one woman.