

Defense of Marriage Act

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7 (Senator Hershman, Adams, Bray, Craycraft, Jr., Drozda, Jackman, Meeks and Waterman) **This resolution to amend the Indiana Constitution would state that marriage in Indiana consists only of one man and one woman.** In addition to banning same-sex marriages, same-sex civil unions would also be banned. **The Indiana Court of Appeals heard oral arguments from the case Morrison v. Sadler on January 12, 2004. This case was brought by 3 same-sex couples who want to get married in Indiana. A ruling could come this spring.*

STATUS: Resolution passed the full Senate on Tuesday, February 3 by a vote of 42 to 7. All 49 House Republicans signed on as authors as did 5 Democrats making a majority of House members. They petitioned House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer, D-South Bend, and Rules Committee Chairman Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City, to assign the resolution to committee. Monday is the last day committees can hear bills and adopt them. Pelath is saying that "no hearings will be held" and he is being backed up by Bauer.

ACTION: Contact your Representative and B. Patrick Bauer, and Rules Committee Chairman Scott Pelath and urge them to give a hearing and support SJR 7. You may do this quickly on line at www.advanceamerica.com.

To see how each Senator voted, go to
http://www.advanceamerica.com/pdf/SJR7%20ROLL%20CALL%20123_2004.pdf