September 16, 2022

Dear Honorable Members of the U.S. Senate,

On behalf of the 40 undersigned faith-based organizations, we join together in support for the Respect for Marriage Act (S. 4556). Across religious traditions, we honor the common tenet that every person has inherent dignity and worth. And wherever we call home, we share the desire to care for our families with love and commitment. We urge the Senate to pass the Respect for Marriage Act, taking meaningful action to protect same-sex and interracial marriage.

The Respect for Marriage Act is a simple way to provide legal stability for all married couples and their families. Within our communities, we approach matters of marriage, family, and identity differently. This bill recognizes this diversity of belief while ensuring that same-sex and interracial couples are treated with equal respect within the public sphere.

Since the Supreme Court’s 2015 decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, popular support for same-sex marriage has increased by 10 percentage points to 71 percent, including a majority of all major religious traditions and 83 percent of Democrats, 73 percent of independents, and 55 percent of Republicans. Support for interracial marriage has reached 94 percent, up from only 20 percent a year after the *Loving v. Virginia* decision in 1967. With time, opponents bore witness to the shared bonds that exist across all marriages and were swayed.

The freedom to marry who one loves is a matter of human dignity. Yet the ability for two people to join together in shared devotion is at risk as long as it remains dependent on the current Supreme Court. Out of our shared religious obligations to care for our neighbors and to pursue justice, we urge you to pass the Respect for Marriage Act.

Sincerely,

Interfaith Alliance
Keshet
ADL (The Anti-Defamation League)
Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists
Auburn Seminary
Believe Out Loud
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
Catholics for Choice
Center for Faith, Justice, and Reconciliation
DignityUSA
Faith in Public Life
Faithful America
Freedom BLOC
Hindus for Human Rights