November 16, 2022

Dear Honorable Members of the U.S. Senate,

On behalf of the 45 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,\(^1\) including a
majority of all major religious traditions and 83 percent of Democrats, 73 percent of
independents, and 55 percent of Republicans.\(^2\) Support for interracial marriage has
reached 94 percent, up from only 20 percent a year after the Loving v. Virginia decision
in 1967.\(^3\) 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
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

\(^{1}\) Source: Pew Research Center
\(^{2}\) Source: American Trends Panel
\(^{3}\) Source: LOVE v. Virginia
Faith in Public Life
Faithful America
Freedom BLOC
Hindu American Foundation
Hindus for Human Rights
Jewish Women International
Latter-day Saint Democrats of America
Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Many Voices: A Black Church Movement for Gay & Transgender Justice
Maranatha
Muslim Advocates
Muslims for Progressive Values
National Council of Jewish Women
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
New Ways Ministry
Parity
Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Public Witness
Rabbinical Assembly
Reconstructing Judaism
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
SACReD (Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity)
SALDEF
Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference
Sikh Coalition
Sikhnet
Sojourners
T’ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
The Episcopal Church
The Freedom BLOC
Union for Reform Judaism
Unitarian Universalist Association
United Church of Christ
Women of Reform Judaism

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