

REFERENCE TITLE: same-sex couples; marriage

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-first Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2014

## **SCR 1012**

Introduced by

Senators Hobbs, Dalessandro, Farley, Gallardo, Meza, Pancrazi, Tovar;  
Representatives Alston, Campbell, Cardenas, Gabaldón, Gallego, Gonzales,  
Mendez, Miranda, Peshlakai, Quezada, Sherwood, Steele; Senator Ableser;  
Representatives Contreras, Escamilla, Hernández, Larkin, Mach, McCune  
Davis, Meyer, Otondo, Saldate, Wheeler

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION OF MARRIAGES BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS OF THE SAME SEX.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1           Whereas, the Legislature acknowledges the recent decision of the United  
2 States Supreme Court in United States v. Windsor, 133 S.Ct. 2675 (2013),  
3 which held that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act, Public Law 104-199,  
4 unlawfully discriminated against married same-sex couples by prohibiting the  
5 federal government from recognizing those marriages and by denying federal  
6 rights, benefits, protections and responsibilities to those couples; and

7           Whereas, the freedom to marry is a fundamental human right and a  
8 protected liberty under the United States Constitution; and

9           Whereas, marriage is a legal institution recognized by this state to  
10 promote stable family relationships and to establish the rights and  
11 responsibilities of couples, their children and other dependent family  
12 members; and

13           Whereas, the marriage laws of this state currently discriminate against  
14 same-sex couples, denying them and their families the legal status, equal  
15 dignity and social inclusion of marriage; and

16           Whereas, the state has an interest in encouraging stable family  
17 relationships regardless of the sex and sexual orientation of the people in  
18 those relationships, and the entire community benefits when couples undertake  
19 the mutual obligations of marriage; and

20           Whereas, despite long-standing discrimination against lesbian, gay,  
21 bisexual and transgender residents of this state, many have formed lasting,  
22 committed and caring relationships with a person of the same sex. These  
23 couples share lives together, participate in their communities together and  
24 often raise children and care for dependent family members together; and

25           Whereas, this state's continued exclusion of same-sex couples from  
26 marriage serves no legitimate purpose and is contrary to the public interest;  
27 and

28           Whereas, equal protection of the laws requires that same-sex couples be  
29 permitted to marry on the same terms as different-sex couples.

30 Therefore

31 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of  
32 Representatives concurring:

33           1. That the Members of the Legislature support the freedom to marry as  
34 a fundamental human right and a protected liberty under the United States  
35 Constitution.

36           2. That the Members of the Legislature support recognizing marriages  
37 between individuals of the same sex in the State of Arizona.