HJR129

62145-2

By Representatives Guin, Grantland, Letson, Dukes, Boothe, Spicer, Martin, Vance, Laird, Layson, Clark, Baker, Graham, Hurst, Thomas (J), Singleton, Jackson, Lindsey, Melton and Beason

RFD: Rules

First Read: 19-FEB-04

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URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES DEFINING MARRIAGE AS A LEGAL UNION BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN.

WHEREAS, a traditional marriage between a man and a woman is the God-ordained building block of the family and the bedrock of a civil society; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, President Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act, which denied federal recognition of same-sex marriages and allowed states to ignore those unions licensed elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, Alabama law currently provides that marriage is inherently a unique relationship between a man and a woman; and

WHEREAS, because of the "full faith and credit" clause in the U.S. Constitution, every other state may be forced to accept the legalization of homosexual marriage by another state; and

WHEREAS, legislation was filed in the 108th Congress of the United States, House Joint Resolution 56, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to provide

that marriage shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman and to prohibit the U.S. Constitution, the constitution of any state, or any state or federal law to be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred on unmarried couples or groups; and

WHEREAS, the proposed constitutional amendment filed in the 108th Congress or one substantially similar to it would constitutionally guarantee what is explicitly provided for in the United States Code as a result of the passage of the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Congress of the United States is urged to enact a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States to provide that marriage shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman and to prohibit the U.S. Constitution, the constitution of any state, or any state or federal law to be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred on unmarried couples or groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be provided to the President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate of the United States Congress, and to each member of the Alabama Delegation to Congress.