

Thank you, Senator Guth

On Thursday, February 19, Senator Dennis Guth filed the Iowa Marriage Amendment as SJR 6, an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa specifying marriage between one man and one woman as the only legal union that is valid or recognized in the state. We thank Senator Guth for his dedication to Biblical truth and the importance of protecting marriage for the generations to come. Below is the video and text of Senator Guth's personal remarks regarding this resolution.

Scroll to the 14:20 mark for Senator Guth's remarks.

Madame President, 2/19/15

Would I be in order for a personal point?

Thank you.

Friends and colleagues,

In the next few days, my oldest daughter will be giving birth to her fourth child. If you happen to notice that Margaret is not by my side, you will know that she is on "Gramma" duty helping with the older three grandchildren. Since she was a small child, our daughter dreamed of marrying and raising a family.

I am concerned that her children's generation will have a totally different view of marriage than my daughter. Today, we seem to emphasize fulfilling the desires of adults rather than promoting the needs of the next generation. I rise today to renew my plea on behalf of thousands of Iowans who wish to have the opportunity to vote on the status of marriage in Iowa.

It has been almost six years since the Iowa Supreme Court

delivered its opinion on marriage. The people of Iowa would also like to issue their opinion on the important role that marriage plays in our culture. I could rattle through a long list of reasons why we should allow this vote to take place, but you have heard them before.

Others will respond with their views on why Iowans should not have the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment. We have also heard those comments before.

So why, in light of the seemingly impossible task before me, do I once again file this proposed amendment, knowing that I most likely face opposition and that I'll endure criticism?

It is really quite simple. It is because this is what I believe. I want my grandchildren and great-grandchildren to have the opportunity to embrace those beliefs without being condemned or bullied.

I do not wish for this resolution to insult or be taken as an indictment against anyone. I only ask to be taken seriously as a fellow citizen striving to serve the best interests of my district and all the people of Iowa.

Margaret and I have been married over 36 years now. We have endured through many, many struggles. Regardless of all the rhetoric and fine sounding arguments to the contrary, I believe that in their hearts most Iowans know that marriage between one man and one woman— each faithful to the other for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part— Cannot help but result in the best environment for children and a more peaceful and productive society.

ANY compromise that is in conflict with that ideal should be resisted. This proposed constitutional amendment does not directly oppose the Supreme Court action of 2009, but it does place the matter before the people, where it rightly belongs.

So, Madame President, I pray in the name of God who created

heaven and earth, man and woman, that this resolution move forward in the Senate so that it might be placed on a ballot and let the voice of the people be heard.

Thank you, Madame President.

And may God guide and bless the great state of Iowa!