



THE ROMNEY RECORD

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A RECORD OF PROTECTING TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

Governor Romney Staunchly Defended Traditional Marriage:

On November 18, 2003, The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) Legalized Same-Sex Marriage Under The State Constitution. (Marc Ambinder, "Journey To The Right," *National Journal*, 2/9/07)

In Response, Governor Romney Called For A Massachusetts Constitutional Amendment Defining Marriage As Between A Man And A Woman. "I disagree with the Supreme Judicial Court. Marriage is an institution between a man and a woman. I will support an amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution to make that expressly clear." (Office Of The Governor, "Statement By Governor Mitt Romney On SJC Decision On Same Sex Marriage," Press Release, 11/18/03)

- **Eventually, 170,000 People Signed The Petition For A Constitutional Amendment, Including Governor Romney.** "Backers of a constitutional ban on gay marriage in Massachusetts have shattered a 20-year-old record for the most certified signatures ever gathered in support of a proposed ballot question. ... The petition drew the signatures of Governor Mitt Romney and his wife, Ann; former House speaker Thomas M. Finneran, now the president of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council; and former Boston mayor Raymond L. Flynn." (Raphael Lewis, "Petition Vs. Gay Marriage Advances," *The Boston Globe*, 12/22/05)

When The Legislature Would Not Vote On The Amendment, Governor Romney Filed Suit To Force A Vote. "Governor Mitt Romney and a group of Massachusetts residents asked the state's highest court yesterday to override the Legislature and let voters decide whether to ban same-sex marriage, accusing legislative leaders of violating the state constitution by refusing to act on the proposal." (Jonathan Saltzman, "Marriage Vote Suit Delivered To SJC," *The Boston Globe*, 11/25/06)

- **Massachusetts Social Conservatives:** "That lawsuit, perhaps more than any other single action, was by all accounts instrumental in bringing pressure on the legislators to vote." (Rita Covelle, Richard Guerriero, Mary Ann Glendon, Kristian Mineau, Dr. Roberto Miranda, James Morgan, Joseph Reilly and Thomas A. Shields, "An Open Letter Regarding Governor Mitt Romney," [Open Letter](#), 1/11/07)

In December 2006, Governor Romney Applauded The SJC's Unanimous Decision That The Legislature Had A Duty To Vote On The Constitutional Amendment. "I applaud the court's unanimous decision that the Legislature has a constitutional duty to vote on the merits of the marriage amendment." (Office Of The Governor, "Statement From Governor Romney On Legislature's Obligation To Vote On Citizen Amendments," Press Release, 12/27/06)

In January 2007, The Massachusetts Legislature Approved The Measure Advancing It To The Next Session. "Massachusetts legislators approved a measure yesterday that next year could allow voters to overturn a historic same-sex marriage law in the only state in the nation where such unions are legal. A bitterly divided state legislature voted to advance a proposed amendment to the state constitution that defines marriage exclusively as a union between a man and a woman. ... 'This is a huge victory for the people of Massachusetts,' Romney said in a statement. 'In a democracy, the voice of the people is sovereign.'" (Michael Powell and Robin Shulman, "Mass. Gay Marriage Law Contested," *The Washington Post*, 1/3/07)

Governor Romney Enforced A 1913 Law Preventing Out-Of-State Same-Sex Couples From Marrying In Massachusetts. "Same-sex couples who live outside Massachusetts will not be able to marry in Massachusetts when gay marriage becomes legal here next month, Gov. Mitt Romney said. ... Mr. Romney said he was basing his decision on a 48-word law, adopted in 1913, which says that the state cannot marry an out-of-state couple if their marriage would be 'void' in their home state." (Pam Belluck, "Romney Won't Let Gay Outsiders Wed In Massachusetts," *The New York Times*, 4/25/04)

Governor Romney Lobbied Lawmakers To Pass The Federal Marriage Amendment:

In June 2004, Governor Romney Testified In Support Of The Federal Marriage Amendment.

"Society can ill afford erosion of charitable institutions. For these reasons, I join with those who support a federal constitutional amendment. Some may retreat from the concept of amendment. While they say they agree with the traditional definition of marriage, they hesitate to amend. But amendment is a vital and necessary aspect of our constitutional democracy, not an aberration." (Governor Mitt Romney, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Testimony, 6/22/04)

- **Governor Romney Also Wrote A Letter To All 100 U.S. Senators Urging Passage Of The Federal Marriage Amendment.** "Next week, you will vote on a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution protecting the institution of marriage. As Governor of the state most directly affected by this amendment, I hope my perspectives will encourage you to vote 'yes.'" (Governor Mitt Romney, Letter To U.S. Senators, 6/2/06)
- **Institute For Marriage And Public Policy President Maggie Gallagher:** Governor Romney's testimony was one of "the single most eloquent and articulate defense of our traditional understanding of marriage I have heard from an American politician." (Maggie Gallagher, "In Defense Of The Family," *National Review Online*, 6/25/04)

Governor Romney's Defense Of Marriage As Has Been Praised By Social Conservatives In Massachusetts:

Massachusetts Social Conservatives: "Since well before 2003, we have been laboring in the trenches of Massachusetts, fighting for the family values you and we share. ... For four years, Governor Romney has been right there beside us, providing leadership on key issues – whether it was politically expedient to do so or not." (Rita Covelle, Richard Guerriero, Mary Ann Glendon, Kristian Mineau, Dr. Roberto Miranda, James Morgan, Joseph Reilly and Thomas A. Shields, "An Open Letter Regarding Governor Mitt Romney," [Open Letter](#), 1/11/07)

Massachusetts Family Institute Kris Mineau: "He's been rock solid on the issue of marriage." (Steve LeBlanc, "Report Blasts Romney's Political Record," *The Associated Press*, 1/12/07)

- **Mineau:** "From the onset of the infamous Goodridge court decision in 2003, Governor Romney has opposed same-sex marriage and, I believe, correctly sought to overturn it through a constitutional amendment." (Kathryn Jean Lopez, "An Early Massachusetts Primary," *National Review*, 1/10/07)

Southern New England School Of Law Professor Dwight Duncan: "On the whole, [Romney] has been consistent in defending marriage as traditionally understood. Furthermore, his use of the bully pulpit and the courts has been unquestionably instrumental in getting the legislature to finally fulfill its constitutional duty and vote on the citizen-initiated constitutional amendment regarding marriage." (Kathryn Jean Lopez, "An Early Massachusetts Primary," *National Review*, 1/10/07)