

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 197

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2015

Mr. NADLER (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. HOYER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. POLIS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CHU of California, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HANNA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. COOPER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect
for State regulation of marriage.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Respect for Marriage
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED** 7 **STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DE-** 8 **FENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.**

9 Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is re-
10 pealed, and the table of sections at the beginning of chap-
11 ter 115 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by
12 striking the item relating to that section.

13 **SEC. 3. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

14 Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 **“§ 7. Marriage**

17 “(a) For the purposes of any Federal law in which
18 marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered
19 married if that individual’s marriage is valid in the State
20 where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of
21 a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage

1 is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage
2 could have been entered into in a State.

3 “(b) In this section, the term ‘State’ means a State,
4 the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto
5 Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United
6 States.”.

