

November 27, 2011

Senator Debbie Stabenow
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow,

My name is Ambrosia Huber, and I am a junior at Oakridge High School in Muskegon, Michigan. I have helped create a small group at my school called SAGMA which stands for Students for the Advancement of Gay Marriage in America. We have been trying to keep an eye on the DOMA repeal. We noticed that Senator Levin of Michigan is now supporting it, but we have not found any news on you supporting it. We wanted to put our two cents in about why we believe you should support the Respect for Marriage Act.

We are sure that you are well aware of what all of the amendments and laws are. We just wanted to remind you that the fourteenth amendment is being violated by Michigan's support of the Defense of Marriage Act. The fourteenth amendment states that "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States." DOMA very clearly is violating that by not allowing a certain group of citizens the privilege to marry in the United States.

DOMA is also contributing to the extremely large deficit. According to an article entitled "House raises salary cap for DOMA lawyer to \$1.5 million" from the Washington Post, the cost for a lawyer to defend DOMA has gone up from \$500,000 to \$1,500,000. That may not seem like much compared to how large the deficit is, but we need to decrease the deficit and every tiny bit helps. America can not keep spending money to protect something that is denying some of its citizens, the very people it is supposed to protect, their rights granted in the Constitution.

The Defense of Marriage Act holds no real government gain. It is costing the government and businesses important to the government money, and it forces discrimination. Different businesses such as Google and Microsoft have to treat their homosexual employees that are legally married in States such as New York differently than those heterosexual couples that are married. Their W-2 forms are different and their taxes are different. Some homosexual couples may have taxes that are different by the hundreds or thousands. This can cause lawsuits which cost the companies more, and it destroys the morale of employees which is actually really important if you want good workers.

If DOMA is repealed it would really be to the benefit of everyone. We are extremely proud of all of those who support the repeal. We hope that you too agree and we look forward to your response.

Thank you,

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