



Republicans Praise U.S. House Passage of the Respect for Marriage Act

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Washington, D.C.: Centerline Action, Inc. and Conservatives Against Discrimination released the following statements applauding today's bipartisan vote in the U.S. House to send the Respect for Marriage Act (RMA) to President Joe Biden for his signature. The RMA would codify federal marriage equality by guaranteeing the federal rights, benefits, and obligations of marriages in the federal code; repeal the Defense of Marriage Act; and provide additional legal protections for marriage equality. The bill, which was amended to include explicit religious liberty protections in the U.S. Senate, passed the U.S. House 258-169. It now goes to President Joe Biden for his signature.

"The People's House has spoken. It's no small measure of pride and gratitude that the United States Congress has given such strong, bipartisan approval to the Respect for Marriage Act. This righteous and long overdue legislation ensures that the legality of same-sex marriage is settled law, and with the passage of this bill, millions of married couples will get the certainty and peace of mind they deserve by having their marriage protected," said Conservative Against Discrimination co-chair and former Republican Congresswoman **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen**.

"With today's bipartisan vote in the U.S. House, more than 50 Republican Senators and Members of Congress stood on the right side of history to protect the freedoms of millions of Americans in same-sex and interracial marriages while respecting religious liberty. Their support for the Respect for Marriage Act further proved, in resounding fashion, that it isn't a partisan issue to believe that all Americans deserve dignity, respect and equal protection under the law. The voices of the American people were heard, and today our nation is one step closer to achieving that ideal," said Centerline Action Board President **James Dozier**. "Further, I would once again like to commend Senators Collins, Portman, Tillis, Baldwin, and Sinema for leaning-in and delivering on a bill which is now on its way to the President's desk."

In a report from [The New York Times](#) this morning, Centerline Action and many other Republicans were credited with helping to run a persuasive and impactful effort that helped "to smooth the way" for this historic achievement in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House.

A May 2022 survey from [Gallup](#) found 71 percent of Americans, including a majority of Republicans, saying they support same-sex marriage. Centerline Action and Conservatives

Against Discrimination joined together to [mobilize hundreds](#) of current and former Republican officials across America to call on the U.S. Congress to pass the Respect for Marriage Act.

Notable letter signatories include: Massachusetts Governor **Charlie Baker**, Massachusetts Lt. Governor **Karyn Polito**, fmr RNC Chairman **Kenneth B. Mehlman**, 2022 Republican U.S. Senate candidates **Dr. Mehmet Oz** and **Joe O’Dea**, fmr Sec. of Transportation **Maria Cino**, fmr Governor of Massachusetts **Jane Swift**, fmr Governor of Montana and RNC Chairman **Marc Racicot**, fmr Governor of Utah **Michael Leavitt**, fmr Governor of Pennsylvania **Tom Ridge**, fmr Governor of Pennsylvania **Mark Schweiker**, fmr U.S. Senator and Secretary of Defense **William Cohen**, fmr U.S. Senator **Scott Brown**, fmr U.S. Senator **Mark Kirk**, fmr U.S. Senator **Olympia Snowe**, fmr U.S. Senator **Gordon Smith**, fmr U.S. Senator **John Danforth**, fmr U.S. Senator **Rudy Boschwitz**, fmr U.S. Senator **Bob Packwood**, **18 fmr Republican Members of Congress**, Republican lawyer **Ben Ginsberg**, fmr Trump White House Director of Strategic Communications **Alyssa Farah Griffin**, GOP Pollster and Strategist **Tony Fabrizio**, fmr Senior Advisor to the Trump for President Campaign **David Urban**, former Trump White House Communications Director **Mike Dubke**, fmr Director of Vice Presidential Operations **Mary Cheney**, Businessman and investor **Neil Bush**, Global Health Corps founder **Barbara Bush** and President & CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers **Jay Timmons**.

A copy of the letter with all signers to date is [available here](#).

Centerline Action is a nonprofit organization focused on forging consensus to advance centrist policy solutions capable of defending core constitutional freedoms and liberties, preserving a free market economy, and limiting the role of government in Americans’ everyday lives.

Conservatives Against Discrimination is a coalition of conservative Americans who believe lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people should be protected from discrimination. This coalition provides resources and opportunities for conservatives from all walks of life who support LGBTQ nondiscrimination laws.

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