

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE JOINS REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN TO RESTORE MARRIAGE LAW

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts today announced that it is joining a referendum campaign to restore a 1913 state law which had prohibited out-of-state couples from marrying in Massachusetts if their attempted marriages were illegal in their home states.

Under pressure from the homosexual lobby, the Massachusetts Legislature repealed the law in July. Governor Deval Patrick signed the repeal measure on July 31. At the last minute, an emergency preamble was added to the repeal bill, putting it into effect as soon as it was signed and preventing it from being suspended until a referendum could be held.

As pro-family groups, including the Catholic Action League, pointed out at the time, the repeal measure will enable homosexual and lesbian couples to enter Massachusetts, contract civil marriages, and then return to their home states to challenge existing marriage laws, thus inviting state court decisions which would invent a right to same gender marriage.

Under Article XLVIII of the Massachusetts Constitution, citizens have 30 days after a law takes effect to petition the Secretary of the Commonwealth to hold a referendum. Ten taxpayers did so on August 13. If the signatures of 33,000 registered voters can then be collected by the end of October, a referendum on the repeal measure will be held during the general election of November, 2010. The campaign to repeal the repeal is being spearheaded by Brian Camenker of Mass Resistance.

The Catholic Action League said the referendum would “finally let the people of Massachusetts vote on traditional marriage, a right that was denied to them when the pandering careerists of the Massachusetts Legislature, on June 14, 2007, refused to send to the 2008 ballot an initiative amendment which would have restored marriage as the union of one man and one woman.”

Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle stated: “Unlike a state constitutional amendment, a referendum does not require approval by a Legislature subservient to the homosexual special interest. Brian Camenker is to be commended for his courage, foresight, and resolve. Like *Roe v. Wade*, the *Goodridge* decision will never attain legitimacy. This issue will not be settled until traditional marriage is fully restored.”