

## Statement of Kris Mineau, President Regarding Referendum Effort for Out-of-State Same-Sex Marriages

Massachusetts Family Institute will not participate in a referendum campaign to reinstate the 1913 law banning same-sex marriage to couples whose marriage would not be legal in their home state. Bent on exporting the same-sex marriages across the country, Governor Patrick and legislative leaders attached an "emergency preamble" to this repeal—allowing it to remain in effect even while citizens seek a referendum at the ballot box two years from now. Their unusual and premeditated action makes it next to impossible for a referendum effort to have a fair outcome.

Under such conditions and with the knowledge that this repeal will have a greater impact outside the state than at home, MFI has determined not to become involved on this singular aspect of the same-sex marriage issue. MFI has an aggressive legislative agenda slated for the upcoming session focused on positive, pro-family legislation.

The 1913 law repeal appears to be part of Deval Patrick's agenda to expand same-sex marriage beyond Massachusetts borders both as governor and as a member of the Democratic National Convention's Platform Committee, which now seeks to repeal the Defense of Marriage Law and grant federal recognition to same-sex marriages.