



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE BOSTON 02133

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MITT ROMNEY  
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 15, 2004

Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Rd.  
[REDACTED] MA [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter regarding same-sex marriage. Over the past several months, many people have taken the time to contact my office with their thoughts and concerns on this issue. I am happy to have this opportunity to respond.

Recently, the State Legislature met in a rare joint session and passed an amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution that defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman. For this amendment to become part of our Constitution, it must be passed by the Legislature again and then be approved by the people of Massachusetts in November 2006.

As you know, the definition of marriage is of great concern to many citizens. On a matter of such significance and with such tender sentiment involved, we must show respect and consideration for those with different opinions. There are real people, including traditional couples, gay couples and children, who are deeply affected by this issue.

But, even as we disagree, we must not forget that at the core of American democracy is the principle that the most fundamental decisions in society should ultimately be decided by the people themselves. I support giving the people the opportunity to decide this issue.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitt Romney".

Mitt Romney