

WHEREAS, Marriage equality is a constitutional right that has been well established by the Supreme Court as precedent and is a freedom that should be protected; and

WHEREAS, In overturning *Roe v. Wade*, members of the Supreme Court majority indicated a willingness to reverse established constitutional precedents and strip the American people of fundamental freedoms and rights, including same-sex and interracial marriage.

WHEREAS, No constitutional right recognized and affirmed by past court decisions can be taken for granted given the Supreme Court's radical shift in jurisprudence and expressed desire to erode fundamental freedoms and liberties.

WHEREAS, the Respect for Marriage Act declares that marriages performed in one state must be recognized in all states, without respect to "sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin." The Act would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and codify the federal protections conferred by the *Loving*, *Windsor*, and *Obergefell* rulings by the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives passed the Respect for Marriage Act in a bipartisan vote of 267 to 157, with 47 Republicans supporting the Act; and

WHEREAS, more than 170 businesses, with employees in all 50 states, have declared support for the Respect for Marriage Act and joined the fight for LGBTQ+ equality on behalf of their employees and customers; and

WHEREAS, Congress should protect the freedom to marry and fight against broader attacks on the LGBTQ+ community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Harris County Commissioners Court urges the passage of the Respect for Marriage Act.

ADOPTED on this 2nd day of August 2022 by Harris County Commissioners Court, Harris County, Texas.

LINA HIDALGO, County Judge

RODNEY ELLIS, Commissioner Precinct One

ADRIAN GARCIA, Commissioner Precinct Two

TOM S. RAMSEY, P.E., Commissioner Precinct Three **R. JACK CAGLE**, Commissioner Precinct Four

ATTEST:

Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk Harris County, T E X A S