

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3567

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

Mr. NADLER of New York (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. KILROY, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. STARK, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WELCH, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. OLVER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HODES, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATSON, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HOLT, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FILNER, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. HARMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. HIMES, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. FARR, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MAFFEI, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. WU) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

# A BILL

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect  
for State regulation of marriage.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Respect for Marriage  
5 Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED**  
7 **STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DE-**  
8 **FENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.**

9 Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is re-  
10 pealed, and the table of sections at the beginning of chap-  
11 ter 115 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by  
12 striking the item relating to that section.

13 **SEC. 3. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

14 Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 **“§ 7. Marriage**

17 “(a) For the purposes of any Federal law in which  
18 marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered  
19 married if that individual’s marriage is valid in the State  
20 where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of  
21 a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage

1 is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage  
2 could have been entered into in a State.

3 “(b) In this section, the term ‘State’ means a State,  
4 the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto  
5 Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United  
6 States.”.

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