

UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 48
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

D4
HB 1220/05 - JUD

6lr0712

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Dwyer, Bates, Cadden, Cluster, Donoghue, Edwards, Elliott, Frank, Gilleland, Glassman, Haddaway, Impallaria, Kach, Krebs, Leopold, McConkey, McDonough, McMillan, Miller, Myers, O'Donnell, Parrott, Shank, Shewell, Sophocleus, Stocksdales, Stull, Trueschler, Weir, Weldon, and Wood**

Requested: September 20, 2005

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2006

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland's Marriage Protection Act**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a new section to the Maryland Constitution to establish
4 that only a marriage between a man and a woman is valid in this State;
5 establishing that certain unions or relationships between individuals of the
6 same sex are not valid in this State and are against the public policy of this
7 State; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of
8 Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

9 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
10 Article XV - Miscellaneous
11 Section 8

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses
14 concurring), That it be proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

15 **Article XV - Miscellaneous**

16 8.

17 (A) ONLY A MARRIAGE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN IS VALID IN THIS
18 STATE.

19 (B) A CIVIL UNION OR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTIES OF THE SAME SEX,
20 BY WHATEVER NAME OR TITLE, THAT CONFERS THE BENEFIT OF MARRIAGE IS NOT
21 VALID IN THIS STATE AND IS AGAINST THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THIS STATE.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
23 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by this Act
24 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the

1 Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do
2 not apply.

3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
4 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the
5 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
6 November, 2006 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
7 Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this
8 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot
9 there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against
10 the Constitutional Amendment," as now provided by law. Immediately after the
11 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the
12 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and
13 further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.