

# HOUSE BILL 1345

D4  
HB 48/06 – JUD

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8lr1554

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By: **Delegates Dwyer, Aumann, Bartlett, Bates, Beitzel, Boteler, Burns, Eckardt, Elliott, Elmore, Frank, George, Haddaway, Impallaria, Jennings, Kelly, King, Kipke, Krebs, McComas, McConkey, McDonough, Miller, Myers, Norman, O'Donnell, Schuh, Shank, Shewell, Sossi, Stifler, Stocksdale, Stull, Walkup, and Wood**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## 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 submitting this amendment to the  
7 qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

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

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

14 **Article XV – Miscellaneous**

15 **8.**

16 **ONLY MARRIAGE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN SHALL BE VALID OR**  
17 **RECOGNIZED IN MARYLAND. THE UNITING OF TWO PERSONS IN A CIVIL UNION,**  
18 **DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP, OR OTHER SIMILAR RELATIONSHIP SHALL NOT BE**  
19 **VALID OR RECOGNIZED IN MARYLAND.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly  
21 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by this Act

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the  
2 Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not  
3 apply.

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section  
5 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the  
6 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in  
7 November, 2008 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the  
8 Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment  
9 to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the  
10 words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against the Constitutional  
11 Amendment," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall  
12 be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as  
13 directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in  
14 accordance with Article XIV.