

September 6, 2022

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the 108 undersigned national, state, and local Jewish organizations, we write to express our support for the Respect for Marriage Act (S.4556). Driven by our Jewish values, we are committed to supporting laws that protect the civil rights and individual liberties of all people. The Respect for Marriage Act would codify three landmark Supreme Court cases, *Obergefell v. Hodges*; *Windsor v. United States*; and *Loving v. Virginia*, and therefore the basic rights of same-sex and interracial marriage. We urge Congress to swiftly pass this important bill.

Jewish tradition teaches that all people are created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the Divine image, and are worthy of dignity and respect. As organizations grounded in Jewish values and beliefs, we have an ethical and moral responsibility to fight for a society that ensures the humanity of all people. Every person is entitled to marry who they love – regardless of sexual orientation or race.

Indeed, support for same-sex marriage protections extends across the faith community, and throughout the country. A majority of all faith groups – including 77 percent of Jews, 57 percent of mainline Protestants, and 57 percent of Catholics support same sex marriage.<sup>1</sup> This view is shared by seven in ten Americans – including 83 percent of Democrats, 73 percent of independents, and 55 percent of Republicans.<sup>2</sup>

Additionally, the Respect for Marriage Act would ensure that all federal benefits are available to married couples regardless of the state in which they live. Congress has a responsibility to pursue economic equity for all, regardless of geographical location, and include historically marginalized groups in this pursuit.

The right to marry who one loves is a matter of human dignity. Our faith teaches us that *kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh*, we are all responsible for each other, and therefore must take action to create a community for which we all can take pride.

As Jewish organizations, we believe firmly that all people deserve the right to marry who they love, regardless of sexual orientation or race. **We urge Congress to pass the Respect for Marriage Act.**

Sincerely,  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Keshet  
ADL (Anti-Defamation League)  
ADL Austin Region  
ADL Florida  
ADL New England  
ADL New York/New Jersey

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/religious-landscape-study/views-about-same-sex-marriage/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://news.gallup.com/poll/350486/record-high-support-same-sex-marriage.aspx>

ADL San Diego  
ADL Southeast  
ADL Southwest  
ADL Texoma  
ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal  
Ameinu  
American Conference of Cantors  
American Jewish World Service  
Avodah  
Aytzim  
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action  
Beth Chayim Chadashim  
California Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-CA)  
Carolina Jews for Justice  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies  
Coastal Roots Farm  
Columbia Jewish Congregation  
Congregation Agudas Achim, Austin Texas  
Congregation Har HaShem, Boulder, CO  
Congregation Rodeph Sholom  
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
Florida Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-FL)  
Greater Miami Jewish Federation  
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America  
Havurat Shalom, Andover MA  
IKAR  
Illinois Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-IL)  
J Street  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action  
Jewish Community Action  
Jewish Community Center of Asheville  
Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund  
Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia  
Jewish Community Relations Council of Broward County  
Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda,  
and Contra Costa Counties  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)  
Jewish Council on Urban Affairs  
Jewish Emergent Network  
Jewish Family Service Houston  
Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans  
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles  
Jewish Family Service of San Diego  
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Jewish Teen Education and Engagement Network, LLC (JTEEN)  
Jewish Women International  
Jewish Youth Climate Movement  
Jews for a Secular Democracy  
Jews United for Justice (JUFJ)  
Jewtina y Co.  
JQY (Jewish Queer Youth)  
JYCA (Jewish Youth for Community Action)  
Kane Street Synagogue  
Lab/Shul  
Makom Shelanu  
Malkhut: progressive Jewish spirituality in Queens  
Massachusetts Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-MA)  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
Men of Reform Judaism  
Milwaukee Jewish Federation  
Mishkan Chicago  
Moving Traditions  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of Jewish Women New York  
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies  
New Israel Fund  
New Jersey Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-NJ)  
New York Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-NY)  
Ohio Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-OH)  
Peninsula Jewish Community Center  
Pennsylvania Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-PA)  
Rabbinical Assembly  
Reconstructing Judaism  
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association  
Romemu  
SAJ-Judaism that Stands for All  
Saul Mirowitz Jewish Community School  
Shalom Austin  
Sixth Circle Consulting  
Society for Humanistic Judaism  
St. Paul Jewish Federation  
T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights  
TBE  
Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael  
Temple Beth El (Tacoma)  
Temple Beth El of Boca Raton  
Temple Emanu-El of Westfield

Temple Kol Emeth  
Temple Ohabei Shalom  
Temple Shir Tikva  
Texas Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-TX)  
The Shalom Center  
The Temple - Atlanta GA  
The Workers Circle  
Tivnu: Building Justice  
Tribe 12  
Tzedek Georgia  
USY  
Women of Reform Judaism