**Overview**

The mislabeled “Respect for Marriage Act” (RFMA) is an attack on millions of Americans who sincerely hold beliefs about marriage and human relationships that have been universally recognized by all major faiths, cultures, and races throughout human history. This bill also directly threatens the free speech and religious liberty of every American and countless organizations that faithfully serve their communities.

Supporters of the bill claim that it merely “codifies” the 2015 *Obergefell* same-sex marriage decision under federal law. But its reach and impact go far beyond redefining marriage. In fact, the bill aids and abets the persecution of religious people and organizations by the government, threatening their First Amendment rights and even these organizations’ ability to exist.

**Status**

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the “RFMA” July 19 by a vote of 267 to 157, with 47 Republicans joining the Democrat majority. The bill was sent to the U.S. Senate, which needs 60 votes to move the bill forward. All 50 senate Democrats will presumably vote in favor. Several Republican are publicly supportive, including Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio, who is a co-sponsor. The Senate could vote on this measure prior to its August recess if it secures sufficient votes for passage.

**Objective**

Apply grassroots pressure to on-the-fence Republicans to prevent the Senate from reaching the 60-vote threshold that would move the bill forward.

**Call to action**

Equip target audiences to execute a phone call campaign to select Senate offices.

**Execution**

Be clear in all communications that this is a *phone call campaign* and provide the contact information for the Senate office that should be engaged.

**Call Script (30 seconds)**

Hi! My name is \_\_\_\_ and I am calling to ask you to VOTE NO on the mislabeled “Respect for Marriage Act.”

This bill would empower the government and activist groups to punish tens of millions of Americans who seek to live according to their longstanding and deeply held belief about marriage.

It exposes religious individuals, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to predatory lawsuits.

It could equip the IRS to revoke faith-based organizations’ non-profit status, harming the millions of families in need that these organizations serve each year.

The “RMFA” *disrespects* and *discriminates against* people in your state. Voting against this bill shows that you respect the people and their fundamental freedoms. VOTE NO on the “Respect for Marriage Act.”