



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

General Treasurer  
State House - 102  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Gina M. Raimondo  
General Treasurer

Speaker of the House Gordon D. Fox  
Office of the Speaker  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

January 10, 2013

Re: 2013 House Bill 5015

Dear ~~Speaker Fox,~~ *Gordon -*

I am writing to express my strong support for 2013-H 5015, legislation that will allow same-sex couples to marry in Rhode Island. I urge swift passage.

Marrying my husband Andy eleven years ago was the best decision of my life and we have two beautiful children together. Every Rhode Islander who wants to be in a loving and committed marriage should have the same rights as we do.

This legislation will provide same-sex couples with equal access to rights and benefits under the law. At the same time, religious institutions will retain the ability to make their own decisions regarding marriage. Rhode Island's history is a story of tolerance. We now have the opportunity to make our state a truly inclusive place. By respecting the rights of all citizens, Rhode Island becomes stronger.

Thank you for your continued leadership on this important issue. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gina M. Raimondo  
General Treasurer