



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION
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**Wisconsin Family Action Statement on US Supreme Court
Decision To Hear Marriage Case**
Wisconsin Family Action President Julaine Appling

MADISON – Today the US Supreme Court announced it will take up marriage cases on appeal from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. That circuit covers Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Unlike the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals that determined that Wisconsin’s marriage amendment is unconstitutional, the 6th Circuit ruled that states do indeed have the right to determine for themselves what marriage will be.

The Associated Press is reporting that the case will likely be argued in April with a decision from the high court as soon as late June.

“We are very pleased that the US Supreme Court understands the importance of marriage and has ultimately not allowed the Circuit Courts of Appeals to be the last word on this foundational issue.

“We stand firmly on the belief that according to our system of government, marriage is an issue that belongs to the states and the voters in those states. It doesn’t belong to the federal government, including federal courts.

“This is what we’ve said since late last year when the high court decided not to take up Wisconsin’s case or other cases regarding marriage that were already before it. We knew the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals was pending and believed that would provide the court what they might have been waiting for—a ruling that upheld the right of states to determine what marriage will be.

“We anticipate that we also will hear from the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals soon on similar cases in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Oral arguments were heard in those cases last Friday. It would not be surprising to get a ruling in that circuit that upholds the right of ‘we the people’ in the states to make these important decisions.

“Contrary to what some are saying, the debate about marriage in our state and in our country is far from over. Wisconsin Family Action will continue to aggressively promote that which is in our state’s best interest—marriage between one man and one woman—because that’s best for Wisconsin’s future generations.”

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