

UNOFFICIAL COPY OF SENATE BILL 262  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

D4  
HB 1220/05 - JUD

6lr2107  
CF HB48

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By: **Senator Greenip**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2006

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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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 are against the public policy of this  
7 State; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of  
8 Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

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

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

15 **Article XV - Miscellaneous**

16 8.

17 (A) ONLY A MARRIAGE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN IS VALID IN THIS  
18 STATE.

19 (B) A CIVIL UNION OR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTIES OF THE SAME SEX,  
20 BY WHATEVER NAME OR TITLE, THAT CONFERS THE BENEFIT OF MARRIAGE IS NOT  
21 VALID IN THIS STATE AND IS AGAINST THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THIS STATE.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly  
23 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by this Act  
24 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the  
25 Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do  
26 not apply.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section  
28 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the

1 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in  
2 November, 2006 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in  
3 Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this  
4 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot  
5 there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against  
6 the Constitutional Amendment," as now provided by law. Immediately after the  
7 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the  
8 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and  
9 further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.