

Marriage Amendment Faithful Citizenship Initiative (MAFCI)

The Iowa Knights of Columbus have committed to MAFCI (by resolution at 2010 Convention) with the objective to encourage the Iowa Legislators to place on a future ballot an Amendment to the Iowa Constitution. The Catholic Church teaches that Marriage was instituted by God as a faithful and permanent union of one man and one woman for their mutual support, the generation and education of children, and the common good of society. For Catholics, Marriage has a special meaning as a Sacrament.

MAFCI is organized as a grass-roots initiative backed by the Iowa KofC leadership whose success requires all Knights and their voting family members to take an active role. The Iowa KofC MAFCI team is partnering with the Iowa Catholic Conference (ICC) to share information and facilitate communication with Iowa Legislators. A Marriage Amendment Bill known as House Joint Resolution 6 has been introduced in the Iowa House of Representatives.

MAFCI encourages all to know and understand the truths our Church teaches and why it's important to become defenders of these truths; yes we live in a tolerant and pluralistic society but this need not mean we should tolerate that which endangers children and society. When everything becomes "marriage" those who need its benefits most – children – will continue to be marginalized by a debate that focuses primarily on the emotional desires of adults.

Knights ought to be involved with issue related politics in appropriate ways. As patriots and Catholics we need to speak out when others shy away. When we speak out on what we believe in and encourage participation in our political process it IS NOT partisan politics. It is being responsible Catholic citizens.

Your MAFCI committee is asking all Knights to take the following actions immediately:

1. Make sure you know who your legislators are and their contact information. Go to www.legis.iowa.gov or the ICC website below.
2. Go to www.iowacatholicconference.org and register to receive the ICC Newsletters and Legislative Action Alerts. Also, review the Marriage Amendment information and the Basics of Lobbying document. Become informed!
3. Go to www.iowakofc.org and register to receive Marriage Amendment e-mails. Also, review MAFCI information & educational materials.
4. Go to www.marriageuniqueforareason.org and review the videos and other information. Also, visit www.usccb.org for background information on marriage and faithful citizenship. Organize a study group with brother Knights and families. Know your faith. It's about discovering the truth, not personal opinion.

When you receive an Legislative Action Alert on the Marriage Amendment from either the ICC, the MAFCI team or your Grand Knight, we ask that you immediately sign on to the Alert at the ICC web site and a letter in your name will be e-mailed to your local legislators on your behalf. For maximum impact, we also ask that you personally contact your legislator either in person, by phone or by personal letter. In terms of effectiveness, other than prayer, meeting is the best, followed by phone call, written letters, then emails or faxes. Most important is that everyone takes some action! Unified as Knights we can be a strong voice for truth & reason.

Thank you for defending Marriage as God intended it.