

## **RESOLUTION NO. 15**

### **Marriage Amendment Faithful Citizenship Initiative (MAFCI)**

**WHEREAS**, marriage is instituted and granted by God as a stable union between one man and one woman for the benefit of the family and the common good;

**AND WHEREAS**, marriage at one time was defined by the laws of the State of Iowa as a result of the traditional, long-standing institution granted by God;

**AND WHEREAS**, marriage as it has been given by God and marriage as it had been granted by the State of Iowa have, in fact, been interwoven within our culture, through a variety of laws and ingrained in our society as between one man and one woman until May, 2009;

**AND WHEREAS**, as a result of an April 3, 2009 ruling from the Iowa Supreme Court, the institution of marriage under the laws of the State of Iowa now allow for unnatural same sex marriage;

**AND WHEREAS**, unnatural same sex marriage under the laws of the State of Iowa will negatively impact and erode the inherent value of marriage, the family and the common good of society;

**AND WHEREAS**, in order to negate the ruling from the Iowa Supreme Court, a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a stable union of one man and one woman (the "Marriage Amendment") must be sought, initiated through the Iowa Legislature;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Roman Catholic Bishops of Iowa issued a public statement in April, 2009 that states they strongly disagree with the Iowa Supreme Court ruling and they have exhorted Catholics and other citizens of Iowa to recognize the clear need for a constitutional amendment on marriage;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, through action by the Executive Committee, should establish a committee known as the Marriage Amendment Faithful Citizenship Initiative (the "MAFCI");

**AND WHEREAS**, the purpose of MAFCI is to focus efforts to encourage Iowa legislators to place on the ballot for a vote on the Marriage Amendment by the citizens of Iowa;

**AND WHEREAS**, the goal of MAFCI is to educate and motivate to action every Knight and Catholic in Iowa to request their legislators to pass the Marriage Amendment;

**AND WHEREAS**, in order to carry forward the purpose and accomplish the goal of MAFCI, a leadership team composed of representatives from the local, district and state levels of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus will serve at the

discretion of the State Deputy, who will make his report on the actions and progress of MAFCI to the membership of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus at least as often as annually;

**AND WHEREAS**, the efforts of MAFCI would be closely coordinated with the Iowa Catholic Conference, with diocesan leadership and with local parishes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the members of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, duly assembled at this 109th State Convention, hereby establish the Marriage Amendment Faithful Citizenship Initiative (“MAFCI”);

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the purpose and goals of MAFCI shall be carried forward in the manner as above stated in order to achieve the ultimate aim of amending the constitution of the State of Iowa so as to define marriage as between one man and one woman and, thus, preserving the gift of marriage from God.

Submitted by Joseph C. Carroll Council #5390, Marion, Iowa.