

Calendar No. 228112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 598**

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation
of marriage.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16, 2011

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. COONS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KOHL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. LEVIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

NOVEMBER 10, 2011

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, without amendment

A BILL

To repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect
for State regulation of marriage.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Respect for Marriage
3 Act of 2011”.

4 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED**
5 **STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DE-**
6 **FENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.**

7 Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is re-
8 pealed, and the table of sections at the beginning of chap-
9 ter 115 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by
10 striking the item relating to that section.

11 **SEC. 3. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

12 Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended
13 to read as follows:

14 **“§ 7. Marriage**

15 “(a) For the purposes of any Federal law in which
16 marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered
17 married if that individual’s marriage is valid in the State
18 where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of
19 a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage
20 is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage
21 could have been entered into in a State.

22 “(b) In this section, the term ‘State’ means a State,
23 the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto
24 Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United
25 States.”.

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