

# COALITION TO SAVE MARRIAGE IN NEW YORK

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\* All organizations listed for  
identification purposes only.

**June 19, 2008**

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Stephen P. Hayford (518-364-5324)

In conjunction with the "Power in the Pulpit" rally held today by New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms, the Coalition to Save Marriage in New York applauds the fact that New York's laws continue to define marriage as the union of one woman and one man. The Coalition also thanks Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno and other legislators who have protected the institution of marriage from being radically redefined to include same-sex partnerships.

Senator Serphin R. Maltese has been a courageous and forthright defender of traditional marriage here in the Empire State, serving as the lead sponsor of the proposed Defense of Marriage Act. The Coalition expresses admiration and gratitude for Senator Maltese's efforts, both in 2008 and in past years.

Senator Martin J. Golden, along with Senator Maltese, Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco, Assemblymembers Daniel J. Burling and Brian M. Kolb, and pro-family leaders across the Empire State, recently took legal action to challenge Governor David Paterson's unilateral decision to require recognition of foreign same-sex marriage licenses by state agencies. The Coalition thanks these legislators for holding Governor Paterson accountable for circumventing the New York State Legislature in order to further a special-interest agenda.

The Coalition thanks New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms for its tireless advocacy of traditional marriage. The Coalition appreciates the clergy who have attended "Power in the Pulpit" today to defend the institution of marriage.

Same-sex marriage is unnecessary, is a misnomer (same-sex relationships are not marriages), fosters suppression of religious freedoms and freedom of speech, opens the door to the possible future legalization of polygamy, and is not in the best interests of children. Contrary to the arguments advanced by same-sex marriage proponents, our state's current definition of marriage does not work any injustice or inequality; in fact, New York's Court of Appeals ruled in 2006 that the Empire State's marriage laws meet constitutional standards. New York's family laws should place the best interests of children before the preferences of adults. For these reasons and many more, the Coalition will continue to promote New York's current definition of marriage and to stand against attempts to alter or expand that definition.

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The following organizations and individuals have endorsed the Statement of Position issued by the Coalition to Save Marriage in New York: The Rt. Rev. William H. Love, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Albany; The Conservative Party of New York State; New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms; Association of Hispanic Ministers; The American Family Association of New York; Caucus for America; Concerned Women for America of New York; New York Christian Coalition; United Chaplains of New York/Brooklyn Chapter; New York Family Policy Council; Marriage & Family Savers Institute; Nassau County Civic Association; National Traditionalist Caucus; The Association of Politically Active Christians.