



## **Remove the Statutory Prohibitions on Same-Sex Marriages - Support SB 10**

### **WHAT THE BILL DOES:**

- This bill repeals the statutory prohibitions on same-sex marriages and civil unions or other arrangements between persons of the same sex purporting to bestow the privileges and obligations of marriage.

### **THE FACTS:**

- Due to the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, these prohibitions are no longer valid.
- In *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the Supreme Court held that the Constitution does not permit the state to bar same-sex couples from marriage on the same terms as accorded to couples of the opposite sex.<sup>1</sup>
- The court further held that the right to marriage was a constitutional right under the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.<sup>2</sup>

### **WHY WE SUPPORT IT:**

- Virginia's current statutory prohibitions on same-sex marriage and civil unions are no longer good law under the Supreme Court's holding in *Obergefell v. Hodges*.
- The current prohibitions must be repealed so that same-sex couples may enjoy the right to marriage guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

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<sup>1</sup> *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 576 U.S. \_\_\_ (2015).

<sup>2</sup> *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 576 U.S. \_\_\_ (2015).