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(Original Signature of Member)

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NADLER of New York (for himself and [see ATTACHED LIST of cospon-
sors]) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Respect for Marriage
5 Act of 2009”.

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

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

8 **SEC. 3. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

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

11 **“§ 7. Marriage**

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

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