

Bill 4015-N-110904

- A bill to protect the partners and families of faculty and staff at The University of Toledo

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I. Defining the Problem

- a. The "Definition of Marriage" amendment to the Ohio Constitution effectively denies domestic partnership benefits to many Ohioans, including prospective faculty and staff of state universities.
- b. The ban on domestic partnership benefits puts The University of Toledo at a competitive disadvantage in recruiting top faculty and qualified staff.
- c. The climate of intolerance established by the ban puts The University of Toledo at a competitive disadvantage in attracting student talent.
- d. The climate of intolerance established by the ban puts Ohio and Toledo at a competitive disadvantage in attracting educated workers and investment capital.

II. The Solution

- a. The University of Toledo Student Senate will stand up for domestic partnership rights by establishing a Select Committee on Partners and Families to work with the University administration, state and local authorities, and other organized groups to effectively advocate on behalf of partnership rights.

III. Method of Solution

- a. The Select Committee will bring together The University of Toledo students, faculty and staff to engage in legislative advocacy around partnership rights.
- b. The Select Committee on Partners and Families shall work collaboratively with The University of Toledo President's Commission on Diversity in opposing the "Definition of Marriage" amendment.
- c. In addition to the membership that is already proscribed by the Senate Constitution and Bylaws of the steering committee, the committee shall also consist of co-chairperson Ashley Nickel, Senators Eric Baker, Sara Beckman, Colleen Drakage, Jake Hasselbach, and Akbar Shetty, Spectrum President Jon Roberts, and other members the co-chairpersons (Vice President Abu-Absi and Senator Nickel) deem appropriate to appoint.