



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

## PRESSRELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact:** Anne Marie Cox, (515) 237-5057

### **Bishop Pates on Iowa Supreme Court ruling on marriage**

Diocese of Des Moines Bishop Richard Pates issued the following statement today:

I wholeheartedly joined as one of the Catholic bishops of Iowa in strongly disagreeing with the decision of the Iowa Supreme Court which struck down Iowa's law defining marriage as a union of one man and one woman.

I urge the voice of the Iowa people to rise in support of a constitutional amendment which clearly upholds the definition of marriage. We will then join the deafening chorus of citizens in every state (30, to date) who have voted to preserve civil marriage as it has been recognized and defined since the beginning of recorded history for the benefit of marriage, families, children and the common good.

*The Diocese of Des Moines includes 83 parishes in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa.*