

 **STATEMENT**

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UNFAIR DOMA RULING SHOWS NEED FOR

FEDERAL MARRIAGE DEFINITION: ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN

Liberty Institute Says Judges Pushing Same-Sex Marriage on States

**AUSTIN, Texas, May 31, 2012** – Today, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit struck down as unconstitutional the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), ruling that it unfairly denies equal benefits to same-sex married couples. In response, Jonathan Saenz, Liberty Institute’s director of legislative affairs, released the following statement:

“This latest act of judicial activism pushing gay marriage shows the courts cannot be trusted on this issue. This court decision invalidating a law signed by President Clinton is an attack on every state’s right to define marriage and shows why it is necessary to have a federal constitutional amendment defining marriage as one man, one woman. We will continue to protect our state DOMA and urge all elected officials from Texas to defend traditional marriage.”

Mr. Saenz regularly communicates religious freedom events via blog at <http://texaslegislativeupdate.com>. Liberty Institute is a non-profit legal group dedicated to defending and restoring religious freedom across America.

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