

## **NEWS**

## From the Office of Rep. Wick Thomas

District 19

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## State Representative Wick Thomas Introduces HJR 60 to Modernize Missouri's Definition of Marriage

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – State Representative Wick Thomas has proudly introduced House Joint Resolution 60, which is a proposed constitutional amendment aimed at modernizing the language surrounding marriage in the Constitution of Missouri.

HJR 60, if approved, would amend Section 33 of Article 1 of the Constitution of Missouri to recognize marriage as valid between individuals who are 18 years of age or older and would remove language that limits marriage to only a man and a woman.

"This resolution reflects the values of fairness, equality, and inclusion that many Missourians feel are top priorities," said Representative Thomas, D-Kansas City. "It's time that our state constitution aligns with the reality of modernity and the principles of love and commitment that bind us all."

Under the proposal, voters would have the opportunity to vote on the amendment at the next general election in November 2026 or during a special election if called by the governor.

Thomas emphasized the importance of community support for their proposal by introducing their husband, Clay Jarratt, during Tuesday's session to symbolize the importance of legalized marriage for same-sex couples. Thomas stated, "Equality under the law should not be a matter of debate, but I am proud to stand with countless Missourians who believe love is love and that everyone deserves opportunities to build their lives together, as they see fit."

Thomas is hopeful that their first legislative session will be one of many productive conversations for equality, fairness, and impactful results in social progress for their constituents and all Missourians.

Rep. Wick Thomas, a Democrat, represents part of Jackson County, (District 19) in the Missouri House of Representatives. Rep. Thomas was elected in November 2024. For more information, please contact Rep. Thomas at 573-751-3310 or by email at Wick.Thomas@house.mo.gov.