



February 28, 2019

## **NCCADV Statement on HB 65**

As an anti-violence and anti-oppression organization whose mission is to end domestic violence, NCCADV has grave concerns about HB 65, the Marriage Amendment Reaffirmation Act.

We believe that all forms of oppression are linked, and the devaluation and dehumanization of any class of people perpetuates an environment in which domestic violence thrives.

HB 65 is an overt act of hostility toward LGBTQ persons. The bill, which aims to overturn settled United States Supreme Court precedent declaring same sex marriage legal across our country, is a concrete example of the discrimination that LGBTQ North Carolinians persons still face every day. Regardless of what happens to the bill in our General Assembly, its existence sends an unmistakable message to LGBTQ persons in North Carolina that there are those in power who do not view them as citizens worthy of the protections and full benefit of the laws of our state.

NCCADV stands with LGBTQ persons. We will continue to work to ensure that our state is a welcoming, inclusive, and safe place for LGBTQ persons and their families. We oppose attempts to remove the myriad protections, benefits, and responsibilities that the legal status of marriage confers on same sex spouses in North Carolina. And we will continue working to ensure that the oppression of LGBTQ and other marginalized communities in North Carolina are eradicated, which is a necessary precondition for a society in which violence in any form is no longer tolerated.