

WOMENSPATH.ORG, INC.
A Social Entrepreneurship for Humanity

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Email To: Representative Grall

From: Bonnie Fey Gilliams
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Re: Bill Proposal Consideration:
Proposed Florida Marriage License Disclosure; Title XLIII Domestic Relations adding
f.s. 741.4652
Proposed new Title XLVIX; adding Florida Marriage Sustainment Act

Dear Representative Grall,

It is my honor to present this to you and your office. Research proves the current law on marriage continues to fail, and I urge you to take a look at f.s. Title XLIII Domestic Relations, Marriage ch. 741-753. Research and studies prove about 90% of adults marry in their lifetime and about 50% get divorce. I propose the following:

- Include the Florida Marriage License Disclosure in the marriage application process
- Initiate the Florida Marriage Sustainment Act
 - Include Marriage as a “Title” in statute and across all government

In 2014, I had a bill proposal and asked for an Executive Order of the Governors office, however that bill was complicated and included taxes incentives. I have done extensive research and work over the past several years, and created my own marriage book soon to be self-published that I hope to help people in marriage.

What I learned in my research about marriage and relationships is amazing. I propose marriage needs clear representation in our government. I am working on a federal proposal and hope Florida will lead the way.

I would like to see “Marriage” *listed* and represented everywhere in our governments, especially I would like to see marriage represented side by side any time divorce is supported in our programs. I have developed three forms for divorce prevention that can be immediately included

in the Marriage Sustainment statute, but at this time I am interested in just putting marriage on the map.

As an example; the floridabar.org offers Consumer Pamphlets. You will find a Divorce Pamphlet, but not Marriage Sustainment. If Clerks in our courts provide information on how to get divorced, they should also provide information how to sustain a marriage. Most of our programs are only available for the need based and at risk population. However, the statistics prove that all marriages are at risk.

It appears f.s. 741.01 (02) says the Governor has a budget for public-awareness regarding domestic violence that includes a portion of the marriage license fee. Although my proposal requires no cost to the government, it is likely avenues are available to grow the platform.

Marriage is the foundation of the family and it has needs, but it is also the merging of two people's lives, and that has proven to be a mess. If Florida statute could include the Marriage License Disclosure this would immediately reach the next generation and can help couples getting married know that they are signing a pretty big contract that affects their life for a very long time.

To get to the root cause of many problems and getting marriage on the "lists" couples being aware if their values are in alignment, and ask very important questions that they may not have role models advise them might make a difference in the happy marriage success rate. Finally, when it gets tough instead of filing for divorce the notices of non-compliance might save relationships, because in the heat of wanting out it is hard to take back filing for divorce because he, or she already did.

Please advise if you are able to support the issue of marriage sustainment. Thank you very much for the work you do.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Fey Gilliams
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Let's Put a Stamp on it!

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