

**Office of the Vermont Secretary of State**  
**Vermont State Archives**

**1999: Proposal 6**

**Subject: Definition of marriage**

PROPOSAL 6

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

This proposal would clarify the definition of marriage to be a union between one man and one woman, and would provide that the benefits and responsibilities of marriage need not be extended by the legislature or the courts to any grouping of people other than one man and one woman.

Sec. 2. Chapter I, Article 22<sup>nd</sup> of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

ARTICLE 22<sup>ND</sup>. [DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE; RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES]

Marriage is the legal union of one man and one woman. The general assembly shall define the legal benefits and responsibilities associated with marriage. No provision of this constitution shall be held to require that any such benefits and responsibilities be extended by the general assembly or the judiciary to any grouping of people other than one man and one woman.