

Testimony opposed to H7781

It is pure folly to introduce the private sex lives of any voter or political candidate as an issue to be raised as a weapon in the important discussion of who is qualified to vote, run for or hold office.

If we focused on the most private areas of candidates lives which - unless tainted by illegal and/or criminal activity - deserve equal respect across the board, despite individual choices regarding sexual partners-- there would be no end to the public scrutiny, embarrassment, and degradation of innocent citizens choosing only to love the willing partners of their choice.

I have often been amused and annoyed by the label we give to the heterosexual community as "straight." If that is our label, what does that make the rest of us? Are our gay and trans, or asexual neighbors "crooked?"

Apparently so, in some lawmakers' minds. Maybe it's time to make a list of what "crooked" REALLY means!

Yet those same lawmakers make no public noise about colleagues and others in their circle who, though "straight" may (and sometimes do) have and flaunt personal relationships that may include publicly known extramarital "partners" (and sometimes even offspring that may be born of those liaisons) who are sometimes boldly a visible and recognized part of that lawmaker's life and even public presence.

Married, unmarried, straight and gay partnerships are private matters, so each couple should have the right to set the sexual boundaries of their intimate relationship(s) without public interference as long as no one is being harmed or unwillingly or illegally forced to participate.

Sincerely,
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