

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New Program Announced for State Senators Willing to Break Party Lines and Support the Defense of Marriage Amendment

St. Paul, Minnesota (May 12, 2004) - Today Minnesota Citizens in Defense of Marriage (MCDM) announced plans to launch a new program in support of State Senators willing to break liberal party ranks and support the Defense of Marriage Amendment. "It's obvious that liberal Senate leadership is attempting to control the actions of its Senate caucus members on this issue", said Jeff Davis, President of MCDM. "We find it curious that conservative Senators that have historically been strong supporters of family values are now siding with the left-wing extremists within their party. We understand that Senate majority leadership has required all caucus members to take a unity oath not to break party ranks on this issue, even in simple procedural votes. We want to assure these Senators that if they demonstrate consistent support for our position on marriage, they deserve and will receive our undivided support."

* The new program is distinct from MCDM's current petition program, which allows Minnesotans to declare their intent to financially support candidates who would challenge the 35 Senators that have blocked a vote on this legislation. This program has raised over \$130,000 to date as well as an extensive database of supporters. "This issue is not going to go away; Minnesotans are going to hold their legislators accountable on this issue", said Davis. "We know there are State Senators that want to support the Defense of Marriage Amendment, but are afraid to do so for fear of losing their party's support. We want to assure these Senators that we will be there to support them if they are penalized by their party for allowing the people of Minnesota to decide the question of marriage."

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Passed out by Sen. Moua