



H-329 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

[www.MajorityWhip.gov](http://www.MajorityWhip.gov)

Phone (202) 225-0197 Fax (202) 226-1115

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CONTACT: BURSON

TAYLOR SNYDER

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JESSICA BOULANGER

## BLUNT ON NEW JERSEY SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DECISION

WASHINGTON-House Majority Whip Roy Blunt (Mo.) today issued the following statement expressing outrage at the New Jersey Supreme Court's decision to order the state to recognize same-sex marriage or its equivalent, taking the definition of marriage out of the hands of New Jersey voters:

"Beginning in 1996 with the Defense of Marriage Act and in subsequent years with votes on the Federal Marriage Amendment, House Republicans have fought to defend the will of the people each time a court has sought to redefine marriage.

"The Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi has opposed each and every one of these efforts.

"Given the actions of the New Jersey Supreme Court today and the fact that similar cases are pending in four other courts, the American people deserve to know whether a Pelosi-led House would defend marriage."

45 states acting by referendum or through their legislatures have enacted state laws or state constitutional amendments blocking same-sex marriage. Yet, activists continue to seek to use the courts to overturn these laws. In fact, cases similar to the New Jersey case are currently pending in California, Connecticut, Iowa and Maryland.

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