

Act No. 324
Public Acts of 1996
Approved by the Governor
June 25, 1996
Filed with the Secretary of State
June 26, 1996

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
88TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1996**

Introduced by Senators Van Regenmorter, North, Shugars, Gougeon, Schuette, Hoffman, Emmons, McManus, Koivisto, Steil, Rogers, Cisky, Bennett and Stille

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 937

AN ACT to amend sections 2, 3, and 4 of chapter 83 of the Revised Statutes of 1846, entitled "Of marriage and the solemnization thereof," being sections 551.2, 551.3, and 551.4 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and to add section 1.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. Sections 2, 3, and 4 of chapter 83 of the Revised Statutes of 1846, being sections 551.2, 551.3, and 551.4 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended and section 1 is added to read as follows:

Sec. 1. Marriage is inherently a unique relationship between a man and a woman. As a matter of public policy, this state has a special interest in encouraging, supporting, and protecting that unique relationship in order to promote, among other goals, the stability and welfare of society and its children. A marriage contracted between individuals of the same sex is invalid in this state.

Sec. 2. So far as its validity in law is concerned, marriage is a civil contract between a man and a woman, to which the consent of parties capable in law of contracting is essential. Consent alone is not enough to effectuate a legal marriage on and after January 1, 1957. Consent shall be followed by obtaining a license as required by section 1 of Act No. 128 of the Public Acts of 1887, being section 551.101 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or as provided for by section 1 of Act No. 180 of the Public Acts of 1897, being section 551.201 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and solemnization as authorized by sections 7 to 18 of this chapter.

Sec. 3. A man shall not marry his mother, sister, grandmother, daughter, granddaughter, stepmother, grandfather's wife, son's wife, grandson's wife, wife's mother, wife's grandmother, wife's daughter, wife's granddaughter, brother's daughter, sister's daughter, father's sister, mother's sister, or cousin of the first degree, or another man.

Sec. 4. A woman shall not marry her father, brother, grandfather, son, grandson, stepfather, grandmother's husband, daughter's husband, granddaughter's husband, husband's father, husband's grandfather, husband's son, husband's grandson, brother's son, sister's son, father's brother, mother's brother, or cousin of the first degree, or another woman.