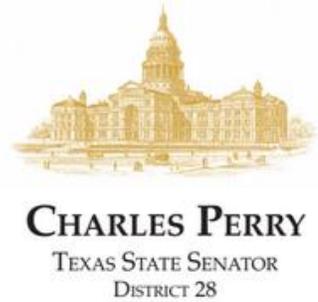


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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The Office of Senator Charles Perry  
Phone: 512-463-0128



## **PERRY FIGHTS TO PROTECT TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE & REAFFIRM 10<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT**

LUBBOCK, TX – Today, Senator Charles Perry filed SB 673 (*The Preservation of Sovereignty and Marriage Act*) to protect traditional marriage and reaffirm Texas sovereignty under the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

In 2003, the Texas Legislature passed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman. In November 2005, Texans voted to add this same protection to our State Constitution by an overwhelming majority of 76%.

“Almost a decade ago the definition of marriage was democratically defined by a super-majority of Texans,” said Senator Charles Perry. “Yesterday, Travis County officials acted in direct conflict with the Texas Constitution. SB 673 ensures rule of law is maintained and the Texas Constitution is protected.”

SB 673 centralizes the process of obtaining marriage licenses to a single Texas entity, the Secretary of State. This will ensure uniformity and prevent noncompliant individuals within a county from issuing marriage licenses that do not conform to state law.

“The officiate of a marriage ceremony already says ‘By the power vested in me by the great State of Texas’,” continued Perry. “My bill simply gives this statement some teeth and places marriage under the purview of the state. I look forward to working closely with stakeholders to ensure the final version of this bill is strong and provides robust protection of marriage as defined by the Texas Constitution.”

Representative Cecil Bell (R - Magnolia) filed HB 1745 as a companion to this legislation in the Texas House.

If you have any questions or comments about this bill or any of Senator Perry’s legislative agenda, please feel free to contact our office at 512-463-0128.

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