



**Testimony of Kimberly McCullough, Legislative Director
In Support of HB 4127
Senate Committee on Judiciary
February 16, 2016**

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee,

The ACLU of Oregon supports HB 4127, a follow-up to HB 2478 which passed in the 2015 session.

In 2015, we urged the legislature to update Oregon's marriage statutes to ensure that LGBT couples—and their freedom to marry—is explicitly and clearly expressed in Oregon's laws. However, a few provisions need to be updated to be consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Obergefell* on June 26, 2015. It would be prudent to amend those statutes now.

We know from past experiences that if Oregon statutes do not expressly denote a change required by a court decision, there can be confusion about how to apply a statute going forward. HB 4127 offers straightforward language that will bring Oregon law into compliance with the current constitutional law and will go a long way toward avoiding unnecessary confusion when applying Oregon laws related to married persons.

We urge your support of HB 4127.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns at kmccullough@aclu-or.org.