

NEWS



MASSACHUSETTS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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STATEMENT FROM MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

RE: the SJC Ruling on *Sandra COTE-WHITACRE & others vs. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & others*

BOSTON, Mass. — While we respect the Court's legal reasoning in the case, we are disappointed that a majority of the Court did not find that the 1913 marriage statute is a selective enforcement of an archaic statute which offends an individual's fundamental right to equal protection and fairness. A clearly divided Court has left further questions unanswered in regard to Massachusetts' treatment and recognition of couples from states which do not specifically prohibit same-gender marriage.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.

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