

My name is Sam Crawford, I moved to Dover in 2024 and have loved my time in New Hampshire, so far. In the interest of time, I shall keep these remarks brief. I am a queer person who happens to be in a “traditional” marriage to my best friend and life partner. Aside from pursuing graduate education at UNH following my service as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, I wanted to live in New Hampshire because of its reputation for respecting personal liberty and placing a high value on freedom and justice, values that I swore to uphold and protect with my oath of office. In the unthinkable event that something were to happen to my wife, and I found myself again “on the market,” as they say, I find it very difficult to believe that so free a state as New Hampshire does not have in place a law guaranteeing my right to marry whomever I choose. Many of my close friends in this state are also members of the LGBT+ community and fear that their futures with their significant others here may be in jeopardy, should CACR25 not pass. This is plainly a non-partisan issue and is conceptually consistent with the tenets of both sides of the isle: it preserves personal liberty and freedom, it enshrines equality, and it draws a hard line between the private love lives of individuals and the government. I very much hope that the House Judiciary Committee will see fit to enshrine these protections for the residents of this state, not only in the interest of my own friends, but out of my continued conviction to support and defend freedom, liberty, and individual rights.

Very Respectfully, Samuel G. Crawford, M.S.

*Semper Fidelis*