



## QUOTES FROM OUR CHAMPIONS

*"By focusing on conservative values like commitment and responsibility, the Commitment Campaign will help more Americans realize that gay couples want to make a promise to each other and join—not attack—the traditions that have made our country strong."*

Dale Carpenter, Conservative Legal Scholar and Professor  
University of Minnesota Law School



*"Gay and lesbian couples share the same aspirations as other Americans: to make a promise of lifetime commitment to each other and to create a stable and loving home. Third Way's Commitment Campaign will play a vital role in helping to move the country towards allowing gay couples to enter into lasting relationships. It will also foster a shift in the way many Americans think about marriage for gay couples."*

Governor Lincoln Chafee (I-RI)



*"The freedom to marry is a tremendous act of personal responsibility. Log Cabin Republicans support Third Way's Commitment Campaign efforts to proclaim that gay Americans, like our straight neighbors, seek marriage for essentially conservative reasons such as family, faith, tradition and the commitment of sharing a life together. Emphasizing these core values and the desire to support marriage will resonate across the political spectrum."*

R. Clarke Cooper  
Executive Director of the Log Cabin Republicans



*"As Maryland and other states look to pass legislation in the next handful of years allowing gay couples to marry, we must lead with messages that resonate with Americans in the middle. A lifetime commitment is the lens through which people view their own marriages, and the more they understand that it is what gay couples want, too, the faster we will be able to make their commitment a reality."*



Attorney General Doug Gansler (D-MD)

*"New Yorkers know that gay couples want to marry to show their commitment and love, and we are thrilled they can now do so legally in our great state. Taking this message of commitment to the American people will help us broaden support for marriage nationwide and ensure that other states follow in New York's footsteps."*



Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)

*"Americans of all walks of life want their children to live in a loving, stable, committed home—protected under the law. By focusing on these values, the Commitment Campaign will help broaden support for marriage across the country and help states like Maryland pass marriage legislation in the near term."*



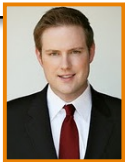
Governor Martin O'Malley (D-MD)

*"Commitment, responsibility, and fidelity are values that the Republican Party has long championed, and they are values that animate my personal support for allowing gay couples to marry. Third Way's Commitment Campaign will be among the most strategic and effective national efforts to broaden support for marriage, with a unique focus on winning over moderates, Independents, conservatives, and Republicans. I am proud to team up with Third Way in our shared efforts to enable all Americans to commit to marriage."*

**Ken Mehlman**  
Former Chairman of the Republican National Committee



*"Committed, monogamous couples are the ingredients that help to build strong families, strong communities, and a strong nation. As a Republican, I believe we need to focus more on these conservative values to broaden support for allowing gay couples to marry. The Commitment Campaign will help bring a new voice to the debate and remind us that commitment and fidelity are the traditional principles to which gay couples are seeking to adhere by joining the tradition of marriage."*



**Charles T. Moran**  
Chairman of the California Log Cabin Republicans

*"Once people understand that gay couples want to marry to make a promise of commitment, not a political statement, they become much more accepting of the idea. By elevating this message through the Commitment Campaign, I believe we can speed our journey to equality."*



**Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO)**

*"I've long been an advocate for the Republican Party returning to its core conservative values, and I think commitment and responsibility are two of those principles. The Commitment Campaign can help to bring an important message to moderate and conservative Americans: allowing gay couples to promise lifetime commitment and fidelity to each other is something we should all embrace. By broadening support for the commitments of gay couples, we can help to refocus our political energies on the real problems of the day."*



**Christine Todd Whitman**  
Former Governor of New Jersey (R)

*"Freedom to Marry is pleased to work with Third Way on the Commitment Campaign. As each of us has the personal conversations that help more people to think anew about the freedom to marry, it's clear that talking about love, commitment, and why marriage matters is the key."*

**Evan Wolfson**  
Founder and President of Freedom to Marry

