



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, we come together this day to reaffirm the special status of traditional marriage in America as a sacred institution; marriage is the foundation for strong and healthy families and a healthy future for our community, state and our nation; and

WHEREAS, mounting scientific evidence confirms that when the marriage tie frays, our children suffer; children raised outside of marriage are more likely to commit crime, to fail at school and on the job, to abuse drugs, to lapse into physical and mental illness, to become teen parents, to suffer material deprivation and to become victims of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, children suffer as well from painful anxieties, persistent fears of abandonment, arising from one or both parents inability to make or keep the marriage commitment; marriage creates the safest space for children to flourish; the only practical way for children to enjoy the full emotional, moral and financial protection of both parents; and

WHEREAS, we honor and acknowledge marriage; which is a covenant relationship; marriage represents the strong commitment a husband and wife make to love each other, support each other and build a family together; research shows, men and women who get and stay married love longer, healthier, wealthier and more satisfying lives; and

WHEREAS, we wish to applaud and encourage efforts by our state and local governments, by our faith communities and by leaders of civil society to strengthen marriages in a variety of new ways such as; marriage education programs, community marriage policies and new covenant marriage laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim February 2013 to be

HEALTHY MARRIAGE MONTH

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-third.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "C.L. 'Butch' Otter", positioned above a horizontal line.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ben Yursa", positioned above a horizontal line.

BEN YURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE