



Brad Frost, M.P.

Saskatoon-Humboldt

Room 930, Confederation Building

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Tel: (613) 992-8052 Fax: (613) 996-9899

Email: Trost.B@parl.gc.ca

Press Release

For Immediate Release

April 13, 2005

Why is Jack Layton afraid of a free vote on marriage?

MP Brad Trost reaffirmed his unequivocal support for traditional marriage today, while praising Conservative Leader Stephen Harper for being the only federal leader to allow a free vote on any legislation regarding the definition of marriage.

Mr. Harper's amendment to the Liberal's same-sex marriage legislation that was voted on in the House (of Commons) last night was a free vote for all members of the Conservative caucus," Trost said.

Trost voted for a Conservative motion to block legislation that would have legalized gay marriage across Canada.

"It is too bad that Mr. Layton doesn't have the same respect for his MPs and their constituents that Stephen has. You would think that the Leader of the NDP wouldn't bully his MPs into voting for gay marriage when this is such an important issue for Canadians," Trost said.

To make matters worse, Manitoba MP Bev Desjarlais had to abstain from the vote so that Layton could claim that all NDP MPs voted against the Conservative bill to protect the traditional definition of marriage.

"As prime minister, Stephen Harper said his government will legislate the definition of marriage as union of one man and one woman, to the exclusion of all others," Trost added.

The NDP voted against the Conservative motion with the help of most of the Bloc Quebecois and the majority of Liberal MPs. The vote was 164-132.

-30-

For information, call the Ottawa office of MP Brad Trost: 613.992.8052