After two days of passionate floor debate on the Federal Marriage Amendment, the Senate defeated a motion aimed at bringing the amendment to protect traditional marriage to a vote on the Senate floor, effectively killing the measure in that Chamber for now.

While I was disappointed with the Senate's unwillingness to take action to protect civilization's oldest and most important social institution, I take heart in the knowledge that this was only the first fight in what will prove to be a long battle over marriage.

If nothing else, this vote put our nation's 100 Senators on record for Americans to see where their elected officials stand on the issue of gay marriage. You can click here to get the Senate's roll call vote.

You can also access further background and reaction to today's vote from the Family Research Council by clicking here . - MRP