No. 10-16696

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

KRISTIN PERRY, et al., *Plaintiffs-Appellees*,

v.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, et al. *Defendants*,

and

DENNIS HOLLINGSWORTH, et al., Defendant-Intervenors-Appellants.

Appeal from United States District Court for the Northern District of California Civil Case No. 09-CV-2292 VRW (Honorable Vaughn R. Walker)

DECLARATION OF PETER A. PATTERSON

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- I, Peter A. Patterson, declare as follows:
- 1. I am an attorney at the law firm of Cooper & Kirk, PLLC, and I am one of the attorneys for Appellants Dennis Hollingsworth, Gail J. Knight, Martin F. Gutierrez, Mark A. Jansson, and ProtectMarriage.com. I make this declaration in support of Appellants' Motion for Leave to Exceed Type-Volume Limitations for their Opening Brief. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
- 2. This appeal presents the Court with the question whether the United States Constitution requires California to redefine the bedrock social institution of marriage. Specifically, it raises the questions whether the Due Process Clause secures to individuals in same-sex relationships a fundamental right to marry that is infringed by the traditional definition of marriage as the union of a man and a woman, whether gays and lesbians are a suspect or quasi-suspect class for purposes of the Equal Protection Clause, and whether the traditional definition of marriage as reflected in Proposition 8 bears a reasonable relationship to any legitimate government interest. Full presentation of the arguments relevant to any *one* of these momentous legal issues might alone consume an entire appellate brief, for to answer them, this Court may be required to examine not only the history, legal tradition, and practice of marriage in this Nation, but also matters related to human sexuality, the growing political power of gays and lesbians, developmental psychology, and the societal consequences of family breakdown.

- 3. A brief of the size Appellants request is thus necessary to give the wide array of issues presented the careful consideration they deserve. Indeed, the district court's ruling invalidating Proposition 8 spans nearly 140 pages and contains nearly 40,000 words. See Doc. No. 708. And despite its size, the district court's ruling simply fails to engage—or even to acknowledge—a wealth of information potentially bearing on Proposition 8's constitutionality, from legal authorities past and present, to scholarship in fields such as sociology, anthropology, and history, an error by the court below that Appellants have sought to correct in their brief to this Court so that it may decide the momentous issues presented by this appeal in full view of the relevant materials necessary to evaluate them with the care that they deserve. This Court has also asked for briefing on Appellants' standing to appeal, a distinct and unsettled issue, the resolution of which could have profound consequences not only in this case, but also for the defense of future California initiative measures in federal court.
- 4. Appellants therefore respectfully request leave to file a brief of no more than 31,000 words.

I declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States, that these facts are true and correct and that this Declaration is executed this 17th day of September 2010 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Peter A. Patterson