

**Representative LaVar Christensen** proposes the following substitute bill:

**FAMILY POLICY**

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: LaVar Christensen**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies Title 30, Husband and Wife, by enacting language relating to the family.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▸ states, as the public policy of Utah, that a family, consisting of a legally and lawfully married man and woman and their children, is the fundamental unit of society; and

▸ requires that laws respect and promote the essential and complementary roles of both a mother and a father and allow for the recognized interests of a grandparent, step-parent, or extended family member as individual circumstances may require.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**30-1-4.2**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **30-1-4.2** is enacted to read:

**30-1-4.2. Public policy in support of family.**

(1) The institution of marriage and family, consisting of the legal union of a man and a woman and children conceived and born to, or adopted by, the married couple as father and mother, is the fundamental unit of society and the optimum environment in which to nurture and raise a child.

(2) Marriage and family predate all governments and are supported by and consistent with the Laws of Nature and Nature's God, the Creator and Supreme Judge of the World, affirmed in the nation's founding Declaration of Independence.

(3) Marriage represents the legal sanction and approval of society and is essential to ordered liberty and public virtue.

(4) The furtherance and protection of order and public morality are legitimate and substantial government interests.

(5) The laws of the state shall, to the fullest extent possible:

(a) strengthen, safeguard, and sustain marriage and families;

(b) respect and promote the essential and complementary roles of both a father and a mother;

(c) allow for the recognized interests of a grandparent, step-parent, or extended family member as individual circumstances may reasonably require; and

(d) uphold this public policy for the greatest public good.