U.S. Congressman Mike Pence released the following statement today condemning the ruling of a federal judge that overturned the will of a majority of Californians who voted for Proposition 8, which defines marriage as the legal union between a man and a woman:

**“Judge Vaughn Walker’s decision to overturn Proposition 8 is an act of judicial overreach by an unelected official that silences the voice of the people. Marriage between a man and a woman is the most enduring human institution. Marriage was ordained by God, confirmed in the law, is the glue of the American family and it must be protected.**

**“This trend of the federal government ignoring the will of the people is becoming all too common, and the American people have grown increasingly frustrated that they are not being heard. Instead they are being ignored, especially on our most cherished values and institutions. We must defend the traditional definition of marriage in the law, in the courts and, if need be, in the Constitution of the United States.”**