


**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR HEARINGS AND RATIFICATION OF
THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

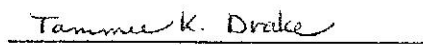
- WHEREAS, There have been periods in North Carolina history in which women have been discriminated against on the basis of their gender; and
- WHEREAS, The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is needed to help correct systemic sex discrimination, since the US Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all the rights that it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex; and
- WHEREAS, The ERA was proposed in 1923, passed by Congress in 1972 and ratified by 35 of the 38 states necessary to put it into the Constitution as of a June 30, 1982 time limit; and
- WHEREAS, Irrespective of a time limit for ratification, the Nevada Legislature ratified the ERA with a bipartisan vote on March 22, 2017, becoming the thirty-sixth state to ratify the amendment; and the Illinois Legislature ratified the ERA with a bipartisan vote on May 30, 2018, becoming the thirty-seventh state to ratify the amendment; and
- WHEREAS, Congress can alter time limits in the proposing clauses of amendments, and the deadline for the ERA appeared only in the preamble and not in the text of the amendment; and
- WHEREAS, Fifteen municipalities across North Carolina have adopted resolutions of support for the ERA; and
- WHEREAS, ERA bills were introduced into both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly in 2015, 2017 and 2018; were assigned to Judiciary and/or Rules Committees, but were not considered in hearings; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the City of Hendersonville calls for a renewed effort to ratify the ERA and urges the General Assembly to hold committee hearings upon like ratification bills and pursue ratification of the ERA to the US Constitution as proposed by Congress on March 22, 1972.

Adopted by the City Council this eleventh day of April 2019.

Submitted to ERA-NC Alliance on April 12, 2019.

Attest:


Barbara G. Volk, Mayor


Tammie K. Drake, City Clerk