



RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF EQUAL RIGHTS FOR EVERYONE

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners strongly supports equal rights for all of its citizens and people everywhere; and

WHEREAS, women in the United States have in the past been subject to laws denying their ability to participate fully in the blessings of liberty enshrined in the Constitution of the United States for "we the people"; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all rights that it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to gender; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was a proposed amendment to the Constitution intended to guarantee equal rights to women; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the ERA in 1972 and submitted it to state legislatures for ratification, with a ratification deadline of March 22, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the ERA did not become a part of the Constitution because only 35 of the necessary 38 states ratified the amendment, 5 of those states rescinded the ratification, and no additional states ratified before the extended deadline of June 20, 1982; and

WHEREAS, the United States has made great strides supporting women's rights in the past fifty years. However, regardless of progress, some women in the United States continue to confront political obstacles, workplace inequities, and high rates of poverty; and

WHEREAS, federal and state legislatures have the constitutional power to pass laws removing societal inequities and punishing crimes perpetrated against any of its citizens; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dare County Board of Commissioners, consistent with our commitment to equal rights for all people and recognizing the Constitutional power and duty of legislative branches of the United States and the State of North Carolina hereby call for - - -

- 1) Open, vigorous debate in the United States Congress and the North Carolina Legislature to remedy any and all inequities facing women in federal and state statutes in order to continue progress in the advances in equal rights that women achieved in the 20th century.
- 2) And, if a Constitutional Amendment is deemed necessary to advance this goal, take up the ERA in the United States Congress and give all voices of the 21st century the opportunity to engage with elected officials to produce an amendment that is likely to achieve ratification.

Adopted this the 6th day of March, 2017.



Dare County Board of Commissioners

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Woodard", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Woodard, Chairman

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary Lee Gross", written over a horizontal line.

Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board