## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, IN SUPPORT OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

## Resolution #17-01

WHEREAS, the Town of Duck forthrightly supports equal rights for the citizens of Duck; and

WHEREAS, Duck is an inclusive community that welcomes and embraces the diversity, talents, and expertise of all our stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, women in the United States continue to confront a lack of political parity, workplace discrimination, health care inequalities, disparate rates of poverty, rape and domestic violence assaults; and

WHEREAS, the US Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all rights that it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex; and

WHEREAS, the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment's equal protection clause has never been interpreted to guarantee equal rights for women in the same way the ERA would, by situating sex as a suspect category invoking strict judicial scrutiny, just as race, national origin and religion do; and

WHEREAS, state laws are not uniform and federal laws are not comprehensive; additionally, these laws can be repealed or reduced; and

WHEREAS, the Amendment would help correct systemic sex discrimination; and

WHEREASE, the ERA was passed by Congress in 1972 and ratified by 35 of the 38 states necessary to put it into the Constitution, yet was assumed to have expired in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Congress can alter time limits in the proposing clauses of amendments; and the deadline for ERA appeared only in the preamble and not the actual legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, THIS 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2017, that it calls on Congress to pass into law a bill to pass an ERA and remove the time limit for ratification of the ERA so that ratification shall be achieved upon the affirmative vote of 38 states, of which 35 have already ratified; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Town of Duck calls on the NC General Assembly to pass into law a bill to ratify the ERA to the US Constitution as proposed by Congress on March 22, 1972.

Adopted this 1st Day of February, 2017.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

DUCK NORTH CAROLING