

RESOLUTION NO. 213

COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RATIFICATION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT BY THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, women, who constitute over 51 percent of the population of North Carolina, continue to confront workplace discrimination, health care inequities, disparate rates of poverty, rape and domestic violence assaults, and a lack of political parity; and

WHEREAS, state anti-discrimination laws are not uniform, federal laws are not comprehensive, and such laws can be repealed or reduced in scope; and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 US 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, Nevada thereby becoming the thirty-sixth state to ratify the amendment; and the Illinois Legislature ratified the ERA with a bipartisan vote on May 30, 2018, Illinois thereby 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, a number of municipalities across North Carolina have adopted resolutions of support for the ERA; and

WHEREAS, bills providing for ratification of the ERA were introduced in both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly in 2015, 2017, and 2018, and were assigned to judiciary and rules committees, but were not considered in hearings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Flat Rock that the effort for ratification of the ERA by the State of North Carolina be renewed in the current session of the North Carolina General Assembly; that bills providing for ratification of


the ERA again be introduced in both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly and referred to appropriate committees; that hearings on the bills be held; and that, upon favorable consideration by such committees, both chambers take the necessary action to achieve ratification of the ERA, as proposed by the Congress of the United States of America on March 22, 1972.

ADOPTED this 11th day of April 2019.

ATTEST:

**COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF
FLAT ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA**


Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

By: 
Robert V. Staton
Mayor