

**Resolution in Support of Ratifying the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) to the United States
Constitution by *[insert name of state here]***

- WHEREAS,** equality under the law is a fundamental value of Americans and the people of *[insert name of county here]* County; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Constitution does not explicitly guarantee equal rights and equal protection for the sexes; and
- WHEREAS,** legislation and court decisions have increased women’s access to education, employment, and public service; and
- WHEREAS,** that same legislation can be repealed and the Supreme Court may strike legislation or retreat from its own precedent, thereby eliminating or abridging legal rights currently enjoyed by women, girls, and their families; and
- WHEREAS,** Americans value the continued participation of women in education, the military, public service, and other spheres of our society; and
- WHEREAS,** the people of the United States continue to experience the negative effects of lack of political parity between men and women, workplace discrimination, health care inequities, disparate rate of poverty, rape and domestic violence assaults;
- WHEREAS,** inclusion of the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) in the Constitution would require courts to increase the level of scrutiny it currently applies to sex discrimination; and
- WHEREAS,** over 95% of Americans support equal rights; and
- WHEREAS,** the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) was passed in 1972 by Congress, which imposed a seven-year ratification deadline on states, later extended to ten years; and
- WHEREAS,** the Constitution does not expressly authorize Congress to impose ratification deadlines on the states, and, moreover, if Congress does have such power, then it also has the power to extend or eliminate its deadlines; and
- WHEREAS,** the American Bar Association reaffirmed its support for ratification of the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) in 2016; and

WHEREAS, well after the 1982 deadline set by Congress, Nevada (2017), Illinois (2018), and Virginia (2020) ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, bringing the total number of states that have ratified the amendment to 38, the number needed to satisfy the Constitutional requirement that an amendment be ratified by three-fourths of the states to become valid; and

WHEREAS, the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) states:

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the *[insert here the name of the voting body]*, support the ratification of the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, *[insert here the name of the voting body]* urge the *[insert name of legislative body]* to ratify the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) to the U.S. Constitution, as proposed by Congress on March 22, 1972, during the *[insert year]* legislative session.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2020.

[insert here the name of authorized signatory]
[insert here his or her title]
[insert here the name of the voting body]