

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

HCR 1023

4
5 By: Representative L. Smith
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8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 REQUESTING AND PETITIONING THE UNITED STATES
10 CONGRESS TO PROPOSE FOR SUBMISSION TO THE STATES
11 FOR CONTINUED RATIFICATION AN EQUAL RIGHTS
12 AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED
13 STATES.
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15 **Subtitle**

16 REQUESTING AND PETITIONING THE UNITED
17 STATES CONGRESS TO PROPOSE FOR
18 SUBMISSION TO THE STATES FOR CONTINUED
19 RATIFICATION AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT
20 TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED
21 STATES.
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24 WHEREAS, in the United States women are still deprived of equal
25 Constitutional rights, equal salaries, equal access to positions of
26 responsibility, and equal treatment in terms of health care, insurance, and
27 Social Security; and
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29 WHEREAS, men would also benefit from equality of rights under the law;
30 and
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32 WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment was written in 1923 to eliminate or
33 modify many state and federal laws that discriminate against women; and
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35 WHEREAS, the language of the Equal Rights Amendment, "equality of
36 rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or



1 by any state on account of sex," has been unchanged since 1923; and

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3 WHEREAS, the central tenet of the Equal Rights Amendment was that sex
4 should not be a determining factor in establishing the legal rights of
5 individuals; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment was approved by Congress in 1972;
8 and

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10 WHEREAS, Congress placed a deadline of June 30, 1982, on the
11 ratification process; and

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13 WHEREAS, at the time of the deadline the Equal Rights Amendment had
14 been ratified by thirty-five (35) states and only needed the ratification of
15 three (3) more states; and

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17 WHEREAS, Congress has the power to adjust or repeal the previous time
18 limit on the Equal Rights Amendment, determine whether state ratifications
19 subsequent to 1982 are valid, and accept the Equal Rights Amendment as part
20 of the Constitution after three (3) more states ratify; and

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22 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas is one of the states that has yet to
23 ratify the Equal Rights Amendment,

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25 NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL
27 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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29 THAT the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas respectfully
30 requests and petitions that one (1) or more members of Congress introduce a
31 resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States
32 that provides that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or
33 abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the proposed resolution not require
36 ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment again by thirty-eight (38) states

1 but permit ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to become effective
2 with ratification by three (3) states that did not ratify the Equal Rights
3 Amendment by June 30, 1982; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT certified copies of this resolution be
6 transmitted by the Secretary of State to the President and Secretary of the
7 United States Senate, to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of
8 Representatives, to each member of the Arkansas delegation to the United
9 States Congress, and to the presiding officer of each house of each state
10 legislature in the United States.

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