

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
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As Engrossed: H2/6/07 H2/9/07 H2/12/07

HJR 1002

4
5 By: Representatives L. Smith, Allen, T. Baker, Berry, Blount, Bond, T. Bradford, E. Brown, J. Brown,
6 Burris, Cash, Cheatham, Chesterfield, Cook, Cooper, Cornwell, L. Cowling, Davenport, Davis, S.
7 Dobbins, Dunn, Edwards, Everett, Flowers, Gaskill, George, Hall, Hardy, Harrelson, Hawkins, House,
8 Hoyt, Hyde, D. Johnson, J. Johnson, Kidd, W. Lewellen, Lovell, Maxwell, Moore, Overbey, Pate,
9 Patterson, Pennartz, Pickett, Pierce, Powers, S. Prater, Rainey, Reep, Reynolds, J. Roebuck, Rogers,
10 Sample, Saunders, Shelby, Stewart, Sullivan, Sumpter, Thyer, Wagner, Webb, Wills, Wood, Wyatt,
11 Petrus
12 By: Senators Madison, Argue, Brown, Bryles, Capps, Crumbly, Faris, Salmon, T. Smith, Steele, Wilkins,
13 R. Thompson

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15
16 **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

17 RATIFYING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED
18 STATES CONSTITUTION PROVIDING THAT EQUALITY OF
19 RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR
20 ABRIDGED BY THE UNITED STATES OR ANY STATE ON
21 ACCOUNT OF SEX.

22
23 **Subtitle**

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31
32 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL
33 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL
34 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

35
36 *SECTION 1. WHEREAS, in 1789 Congress submitted the Madison Amendment,*



1 *which relates to the timing of Congressional pay raises, to the states as*
2 *part of the proposed Bill of Rights, but it was not ratified by three-fourths*
3 *(3/4) of the states and certified by the United States archivist until two*
4 *hundred three (203) years later in 1992, making it the Twenty-seventh*
5 *Amendment to the United States Constitution and establishing a precedent such*
6 *that the Equal Rights Amendment is sufficiently contemporaneous and therefore*
7 *remains viable; and*

8
9 *WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment was first introduced in Congress in*
10 *1923 and filed every session thereafter until it was finally approved by*
11 *Congress in 1972 and sent to the states for ratification with a seven-year*
12 *deadline, and in 1978 Congress extended the deadline for three (3) more*
13 *years; and*

14
15 *WHEREAS, the restricting time limit for the Equal Rights Amendment is*
16 *in the resolving clause and is not part of the amendment proposed by*
17 *Congress, and the amendment is already ratified by thirty-five (35) states;*
18 *and*

19
20 *WHEREAS, Congress passed a time extension for the Equal Rights*
21 *Amendment on October 20, 1978, demonstrating that a time limit in a resolving*
22 *clause can be disregarded if it is not part of the proposed amendment; and*
23

24 *WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court, in Coleman v. Miller, 307*
25 *U.S. 433, 456 (1939), recognized that Congress is in a unique position to*
26 *judge the tenor of the nation, to be aware of the political, social, and*
27 *economic factors affecting the nation, and to be aware of the importance to*
28 *the nation of a proposed amendment; and*

29
30 *WHEREAS, if an amendment to the Constitution of the United States has*
31 *been proposed by two-thirds (2/3) of both houses of Congress and ratified by*
32 *three-fourths (3/4) of the state legislatures, it is for Congress under the*
33 *principles of Coleman v. Miller to determine the validity of the state*
34 *ratifications occurring after a time limit in the resolving clause but not in*
35 *the amendment itself; and*

36

1 *WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment for men and women is needed in the*
2 *United States Constitution because while women enjoy more rights today than*
3 *they did when the Equal Rights Amendment was first introduced in 1923 or when*
4 *it was passed by Congress in 1972, hard-won laws against gender*
5 *discrimination do not rest on any unequivocal constitutional foundation, but*
6 *rather those laws can be inconsistently enforced or even repealed; and*

7
8 *WHEREAS, equality for men and women is necessary in order to have a*
9 *clear constitutional guarantee that gender is considered a suspect*
10 *classification and entitled to the same strict scrutiny that courts reserve*
11 *for race, religion, and national origin; and*

12
13 *WHEREAS, nothing in this House Joint Resolution shall be interpreted to*
14 *conflict with or negate Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 83 regarding*
15 *marriage in Arkansas.*

16
17 SECTION 2. The following article proposed as an amendment to the
18 United States Constitution is ratified:

19 "ARTICLE

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

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

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

26
27 SECTION 3. The Secretary of State of the State of Arkansas is directed
28 to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the General
29 Services Administration of the United States and to the Speaker of the House
30 of Representatives of the Congress of the United States.

31
32 */s/ L. Smith, et al*

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