



National Federation of Democratic Women Resolution #5 To Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment

WHEREAS, the United States of America is the only industrialized country that does not recognize the equality of women in its Constitution, and when our nation works with other countries to help them write a constitution, each document includes a rule establishing the equality of women. However, in this country women continue to endure workplace discrimination, wage inequities, health care inequities, higher rates of poverty, rampant rape and domestic violence assaults, a lack of political parity and other forms of sex-based discrimination; and

WHEREAS, when Virginia ratified the Equal Rights Amendment on January 15, 2020, that fulfilled the mandate of 38 states needed to add the ERA to the U.S. Constitution. The original ERA legislation did not specify a final date for ratification, and the precedent was set to accept the 38th state ratification in 2020 because the Madison Amendment led to the passage of the 27th Amendment 203 years after its initial passing; and

WHEREAS, adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution would support workplace equity and foster a society of equal opportunity, this amendment would help to bring uniformity to the court system, help avoid the law being interpreted case by case, and could even help avoid lengthy and expensive lawsuits.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women calls on the Archivist of the United States to immediately certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as part of the Constitution, and we call on Congress to further support adoption of the ERA by passing pending bi-partisan legislation that removes the time limit on the states for ratification.

Submitted by the NFDW Resolutions Committee and the Legislative Committee

Adopted by the NFDW Members at the 49th National Convention on June 13, 2020