

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

HCR 1014

By: Representative V. Flowers
By: Senator Elliott

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING AND PETITIONING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
TO PROPOSE FOR SUBMISSION TO THE STATES FOR CONTINUED
RATIFICATION AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED
STATES CONSTITUTION.

Subtitle

REQUESTING AND PETITIONING THE UNITED
STATES CONGRESS TO PROPOSE FOR SUBMISSION
TO THE STATES FOR CONTINUED RATIFICATION
AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

WHEREAS, in the United States, women are still deprived of equal Constitutional rights, equal salaries, equal access to positions of responsibility, and equal treatment in terms of health care, insurance, and Social Security; and

WHEREAS, men would also benefit from equality of rights under the law; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment was written in 1923 to eliminate or modify many state and federal laws that discriminate against women; and

WHEREAS, the language of the Equal Rights Amendment, "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex," has been unchanged since 1923; and



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

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

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

WHEREAS, during the ratification process, thirty-five (35) states ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, leaving only three (3) more states necessary to complete national ratification; and

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

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

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the proposed resolution not require ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment again by thirty-eight (38) states but permit ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to become effective with ratification by three (3) states that did not ratify the Equal Rights

Amendment by June 30, 1982.

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