

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 78

Reps. Kuppa, Cavanagh, Morse, Weiss, Manoogian, Puri, Sneller, Sowerby, Clemente, Brabec, Tyrone Carter, Liberati, Steenland, Hood, Breen, Garza, Koleszar, Coleman, Scott, Cambensy, Ellison, Brenda Carter, Steckloff, Hertel, Rogers, Stone, Whitsett, O'Neal, Brixie, Hope, Peterson, Haadsma, Cherry, Bolden, Camilleri, Aiyash, Young, Lasinski, Rabhi, LaGrand, Sabo, Thanedar, Bezotte, Anthony and Yancey offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to encourage the United States Senate to extend
2 the ratification deadline of the Equal Rights Amendment and affirm
3 the amendment's adoption.

4 Whereas, The Equal Rights Amendment, first introduced in 1923
5 after the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment securing women the
6 right to vote, proposes to establish equal rights for men and
7 women. The Equal Rights Amendment is considered a logical next step

1 in ensuring women fair treatment and equal access to opportunity,
2 and remains necessary today; and

3 Whereas, A half century later, championed by U.S.
4 Representative Martha Griffiths of Michigan, the Equal Rights
5 Amendment was approved by Congress and proposed to the states for
6 ratification in 1972. The amendment's proposing clause included a
7 seven-year deadline for ratification, which Congress later
8 extended; and

9 Whereas, The Michigan Legislature adopted HJR LLL in 1972 to
10 ratify the amendment. Between 1972 and 1982, 34 more state
11 legislatures approved the amendment, three states short of the
12 number required for ratification; and

13 Whereas, There has been a renewed interest in ratifying the
14 Equal Rights Amendment in recent years. In 2017 and 2018,
15 respectively, the Nevada and Illinois legislatures ratified the
16 amendment. In January 2020, Virginia became the 38th state to
17 ratify the amendment; and

18 Whereas, The Equal Rights Amendment has met the constitutional
19 requirement for ratification under Article V of the United States
20 Constitution. It has been properly ratified by three-fourths of
21 state legislatures; and

22 Whereas, In order to reflect the will of the states, Congress
23 needs to repeal or extend the ratification deadline, an action it
24 has taken for previous amendments. Under Article V, Congress has
25 the authority to extend the deadline; and

26 Whereas, Significant progress has been made towards this goal.
27 On March 17, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a
28 resolution to remove the deadline to ratify the Equal Rights
29 Amendment. A companion resolution must now be adopted by the United

1 States Senate; and

2 Whereas, It has been almost a century since the Equal Rights
3 Amendment was first introduced. It is long past time that we
4 guarantee equality, security, and prosperity for women and men;
5 now, therefore, be it

6 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we encourage
7 the United States Senate to extend the ratification deadline of the
8 Equal Rights Amendment and affirm the amendment's adoption; and be
9 it further

10 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
11 President of the United States Senate and the United States
12 Senators from Michigan.