

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REVISED

LLS NO. R23-0855.01 Katelyn Guderian x3205

SJR23-006

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House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 23-006

101 **CONCERNING THE EFFORT TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND ENSHRINE IN THE**
102 **CONSTITUTION THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES.**

1 WHEREAS, This year marks the 100th anniversary of when the
2 Equal Rights Amendment ("ERA") was initially proposed in Congress.
3 Many things about American life have changed since then. It took 100
4 years, but there is now widespread bipartisan support of the Equal Rights
5 Amendment; and

6 WHEREAS, The strides made over these past 100 years are not
7 inconsequential, but are still piecemeal when compared to the
8 straightforward declaration of the ERA, which simply states: "Equality of
9 rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States
10 or by any state on account of sex"; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

HOUSE
Final Reading
March 2, 2023

SENATE
Final Reading
March 1, 2023

1 WHEREAS, We know that women's rights on multiple levels are
2 still being challenged. Bodily autonomy, equal pay, and protection from
3 sexual harassment are still being denied; and

4 WHEREAS, Jennifer Weiss-Wolf, the Brennan Center's Women
5 and Democracy Fellow, noted that the ERA would empower Congress "to
6 enforce gender equity through legislation and, more generally, the
7 creation of a social framework to formally acknowledge systemic biases
8 that permeate and often limit women's daily experiences"; and

9 WHEREAS, Among 193 United Nations member states, 85% have
10 a provision in their constitution that specifically addresses gender
11 equality, and 60% have a provision that prohibits discrimination on the
12 basis of sex; and

13 WHEREAS, The ERA would transform what is currently implicit
14 into the unambiguous and strengthen the bedrock of our most dearly held
15 American value, that *all* people are created equal. As one of the first
16 states to allow women to vote, several years before the 19th amendment
17 gave all women in America this right, Colorado has proudly stood by and
18 for women. The ERA has been duly ratified by the 38 required states. It
19 is long past time to fill the full measure of this storied history, and with
20 Virginia's vote last year, the last of the 38 required, it is time to enshrine
21 the ERA into the U.S. Constitution; and

22 WHEREAS, Coloradans and all American women deserve this
23 basic protection of their inherent freedom; now, therefore,

24 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General*
25 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*
26 *concurring herein:*

27 (1) That women have fought long and hard to have their rights
28 recognized;

29 (2) That women and those identifying as women are still subject
30 to pay, pregnancy, and other forms of discrimination; and

31 (3) That, having received the ratification of the 38 states required,
32 it is time for the United States Congress to pass the Equal Rights
33 Amendment.