



JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SGA.JMU.EDU | SGA@JMU.EDU | MADISON UNION 331

S. Res. 27

To Support the Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

IN THE SENATE OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Senators Ethan Gardner, Ryan Ritter, Anna Connole, Charlie Jones, Katrina Tilley, Charles Conner, Sophie LeFew, and Tiffany Parra submitted the following resolution.

A RESOLUTION

To support passage of legislation in the Virginia General Assembly to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, which would embed equality under the law on the basis of sex into the United States Constitution.

Whereas, the Equal Rights Amendment reads “Women shall have equal rights in the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex,” AND;

Whereas, thirty-seven states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, leaving Virginia the opportunity to be the final state needed to reach the thirty-eight-state threshold to amend the Constitution, AND;

Whereas, courts have not ruled on the validity of the passed deadline on the ERA and the United States Congress can pass legislation extending or removing the deadline for ratification of the ERA by the states, AND;

Whereas, rescindments of ratification by states have been previously held to be impermissible by the Supreme Court, AND;

Whereas, the Equal Rights Amendment outlines integral protections against discrimination for *all* people on the basis of sex, AND;

Whereas, the U.S. Constitution has no codified protections on the basis of gender leaving gender egalitarianism up to easily altered or repealed federal regulations and laws, AND;

Whereas, laws and practices that discriminate on the basis of sex are treated with less legal scrutiny than constitutional protections for race, religion, and national origin outlined in the 14th Amendment, leaving people vulnerable to discrimination on the basis of their sex, AND;

Whereas, passing the Equal Rights Amendment would add needed legal fortification behind Title IX cases addressing sexual assaults and gender violence, AND;

Whereas, the Equal Rights Amendment would add constitutional protections to fight back against discrimination in employment, education, healthcare, maternity, incarceration, and much more, AND;

Whereas, the United States would join other leading countries in the world to affirm legal gender equality, AND;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Student Senate of James Madison University, That:

The Student Government Association of James Madison University endorses:

- Passage of HJ 1 in the Virginia House of Delegates and SJ 1 Virginia Senate to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution
- Passage of H.J. Res. 38 in the US House of Representatives and S.J. Res. 6 in the US Senate to remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The Student Government Association of James Madison University urges elected representatives in the Virginia General Assembly and United States Congress to support equality under law on the basis of sex by voting in favor of this legislation and taking all needed action to ensure the Equal Rights Amendment is added to the US Constitution.

VA Senate Bill: <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?201+sum+SJ1>

VA House of Delegates Bill: <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?201+sum+HJ1>