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Referred: Judiciary

BY M.M.MILLER, DUNCAN,  
GRUSSENDORF, CLOCKSIN, KOPONEN,  
GOLL, DAVIS, SZYMANSKI AND FRITZ

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the proposal by Congress of

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an Equal Rights Amendment.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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WHEREAS the first action of the Alaska Territorial Legislature in 1913

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was to give women the right to vote; and

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WHEREAS in 1972, shortly after the Equal Rights Amendment was passed

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by the United States Congress, Alaska was among the first states to ratify

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the proposed amendment; and

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WHEREAS, effective October 14, 1972, the Constitution of the State of

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Alaska was amended by a vote of the people to include a provision that no

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person is to be denied the enjoyment of any civil or political right be-

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cause of sex; and

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WHEREAS the state constitutional provision guaranteeing the rights of

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women has been a valuable tool in Alaska and has enhanced the ability of

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all citizens, not just women, to achieve their full potential; and

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WHEREAS negative results predicted by opponents of the state provision

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guaranteeing the rights of women have not materialized and the constitu-

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tional amendment has not presented any difficulties of any sort; and

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WHEREAS the people of a state are free and equal only when all citi-

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zens enjoy the same rights; and

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WHEREAS the people of the State of Alaska wish to have the Congress

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again propose an Equal Rights Amendment to the States for their considera-

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tion; and

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WHEREAS Article V of the Constitution of the United States permits

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Congress to require that ratification of a proposed amendment be by

1 conventions in the several states; and

2 WHEREAS the question of the ratification of an Equal Rights Amendment  
3 to the Constitution has been the subject of extensive debate and hearings  
4 in the legislatures of the several states; and

5 WHEREAS the procedures inevitably resulting from the election in the  
6 several states of delegates to state ratification conventions would permit  
7 the voters in the states the opportunity to decide for themselves the  
8 question whether they wish to ratify an Equal Rights Amendment;

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Congress is re-  
10 spectfully requested to again propose an amendment to the United States  
11 Constitution guaranteeing equal rights to women; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress is respectfully urged to propose the  
13 amendment for ratification by state conventions selected in the several  
14 states.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,  
16 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the  
17 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-  
18 tives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,  
19 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of  
20 the Alaska delegation in Congress.