RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE RATIFICATION IN NORTH CAROLINA OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT* (ERA) TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS women are 51% of the North Carolina population, and

WHEREAS the United States Constitution does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and

WHEREAS the United States Constitution does not include language which addresses comprehensively the protection of the rights of women, and

WHEREAS the 14th amendment of the United States Constitution does not specifically set forth language to protect women's rights from being denied or abridged, and

WHEREAS the ERA will guarantee that equal rights and due process for women are clearly expressed and protected under the Constitution, and

WHEREAS any amendment can be properly presented to the states for ratification at any time, given that Article V of the United States Constitution imposes no time limits for ratification of amendments to the constitution, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Association of University Women of North Carolina calls on members of the North Carolina House of Representatives and North Carolina Senate to cosponsor, support and pass into law House Bill 166 and Senate Bills 147 and 184 to affirm and ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution as proposed by the US Congress on March 22, 1972.

*Full Text of the ERA:

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

Submitted to the AAUW of North Carolina

Denny McGuire, Chair Public Policy Committee

March 21, 2015