

## **AAUW of North Carolina**

### **Resolution Against Constitutional Amendment On Same Sex Marriage**

**Whereas**, same-sex marriage is already illegal in North Carolina so Voting No on this amendment is NOT a vote to legalize same-sex marriage. This anti-gay amendment is redundant, a distraction from the real economic challenges we face; and

**Whereas**, this amendment puts discrimination into the North Carolina Constitution, a document that should protect all citizens' rights; and

**Whereas**, this amendment is bad for business as corporate executives have indicated that this amendment would make it more difficult to recruit a diverse workforce; and

**Whereas**, passage of this amendment would cause protracted legal battles at private and public expense; and

**Whereas**, this amendment would prohibit the protections for civil unions already in existence such as allowing insurance benefits for domestic partners; and

**Whereas**, this amendment could interfere with domestic violence protections for unmarried couples; and child custody and visitation rights that seek to protect the best interests of children; and

**Whereas**, this amendment harms vulnerable gay young people by sending a negative message that their state and their neighbors consider them second-class citizens, undeserving of the basic rights and protections.

**Whereas**, recent polling indicates that more people were against the amendment than support it which means that we can defeat the effort to put discrimination into our constitution;

**Therefore be it resolved**, that AAUW of North Carolina pledges its resources and will focus its efforts to defeat this amendment; and

**Therefore be it finally resolved**, that AAUW of North Carolina encourages its branches and members to work to defeat the amendment by doing the following:

- Bring awareness of the pitfalls of the amendment to their branch and their community;
- Organize actions to bring attention to the amendment;
- Get out the vote to defeat this amendment;
- Join in coalition with other organizations working against the amendment