



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of  
3 Discrimination against Women was adopted by the United Nations  
4 General Assembly on December 18, 1979, became an international  
5 treaty on September 3, 1981, and by 2003, well over  
6 three-fourths of the world, 174 nations, have agreed to be  
7 bound by the Convention's provisions; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States supports and has a position of  
9 leadership in the United Nations, and was an active participant  
10 in the drafting and is a signatory to the Convention; and

11 WHEREAS, The spirit of the Convention is rooted in the  
12 goals of the United Nations and the United States to affirm  
13 faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of  
14 the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women; and

15 WHEREAS, The Convention provides a comprehensive framework  
16 for challenging the various forces that have created and  
17 sustained discrimination based on sex against half the world's  
18 population; the nations in support of the present Convention  
19 have agreed to follow Convention prescriptions; and

20 WHEREAS, Although women have made major gains in the  
21 struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal,  
22 educational, and other fields in this century, there is much  
23 yet to be accomplished and, through its support, leadership,  
24 and prestige, the United States can help create a world where  
25 women are no longer discriminated against and have achieved one  
26 of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; and

27 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush and the Secretary of  
28 State have put this treaty, the United Nations Convention on  
29 the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,  
30 in Category III of priority in order to accelerate the Treaty's

1 passage through the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and  
2 the full U.S. Senate with the goal of United States  
3 ratification; therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
6 exhort the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to again pass  
7 this Treaty favorably out of Committee; and send it to the  
8 Senate floor; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That we strongly urge the Senate of the United  
10 States to vote favorably to ratify the United Nations  
11 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination  
12 against Women and to support the Convention's continuing goals;  
13 and be it further

14       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
15 delivered to the President of the United States, the Secretary  
16 of State of the United States, the President of the United  
17 States Senate, the Chair and the members of the Senate Foreign  
18 Relations Committee, and to each member of the Illinois  
19 congressional delegation.