

*2026 Republican Precinct Convention of
Precinct No. 332
Travis County, Texas*

Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS, in the form of U.S. House Joint Resolution 208, on March 22, 1972, the 92nd U.S. Congress, by the constitutionally-required vote of two-thirds in each house, offered to the state legislatures for ratification—pursuant to Article V of the U.S. Constitution—the “Equal Rights Amendment” (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution with the stipulation that state lawmakers had seven years to ratify the ERA; and

WHEREAS, in a hotly-contested effort to “change the rules in the middle of the game” and give the 1972 ERA three additional years of pendency before state legislators, the 95th Congress in 1978—by mere simple majorities in each house—purported to extend the ratification deadline to June 30, 1982; and

WHEREAS, by March 22, 1979—exactly seven years from its submission to the state legislatures—the 1972 ERA had been approved by legislators in only 35 of the required 38 states (38 being three-fourths of the 50 states in the Union in 1972 and still to this day in 2026) but, from 1973 to 1978, the legislatures of Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska and Tennessee subsequently adopted resolutions to outright rescind those four states’ earlier ERA ratifications and lawmakers in a fifth state, South Dakota, adopted a resolution on March 1, 1979, clarifying that South Dakota’s 1973 ratification of the 1972 ERA would only be valid up to March 22, 1979, which was the originally-agreed-upon ratification deadline; and

WHEREAS, during the vigorously-disputed “extension” from March 23, 1979, to June 30, 1982, there was no substantive activity relative to the 1972 ERA within the state legislatures; and by June 30, 1982, ERA still had no more than 35 ratifications—minus, of course, the aforementioned five; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2017—38 years after the 1979 ratification deadline came and went—lawmakers in Nevada belatedly approved the 1972 ERA; and

WHEREAS, Illinois legislators soon followed on May 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2020, the Virginia General Assembly likewise late-ratified the 1972 ERA; and

WHEREAS, now-former President Joe Biden issued a declaration on January 17, 2025—mere days from the conclusion of his single term in the White House—asserting that the 1972 ERA “has cleared all necessary hurdles to be formally added to the Constitution as the 28th Amendment” and went on to boldly announce that “the Equal Rights

Amendment has become part of our Constitution”; and

WHEREAS, like the 46th President, other leftist supporters of the 1972 ERA vigorously assert that the Illinois, Nevada and Virginia tardy ratifications constitute the 36th, 37th and 38th approvals, respectively, that are necessary—according to their perspective—to propel the 1972 ERA into the U.S. Constitution as that document’s 28th Amendment; and

WHEREAS, leftists maintain that ratification deadlines are meaningless and further assert that once a state legislature has ratified a proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution, it may not later validly rescind that ratification—even if the ratification process for that particular measure has not yet reached completion; and

WHEREAS, given that women and men presently already enjoy “equality of rights under the law”—as has long been guaranteed by the Constitution’s 14th Amendment adopted in the year 1868—it is natural to question why persons on the political left are so adamant in their faulty claim that the 1972 ERA has become the document’s 28th Amendment during the current 2020s; and

WHEREAS, upon even the most cursory reflection, it quickly becomes obvious that the leftist agenda with the 1972 ERA is actually abortion; by inserting the word “sex” into the Constitution prior to the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2022 *Dobbs* decision, those on the left had hoped to prevent any overturning of the 1973 case of *Roe v. Wade*; and

WHEREAS, even after the 2022 *Dobbs* ruling, leftists remain filled with hope that incorporation of the 1972 ERA’s verbiage into the Federal Constitution now will eventually rejuvenate the concept of abortion-on-demand nationwide within the United States; and

WHEREAS, liberal backers of the 1972 ERA additionally maintain that states such as Texas—whose lawmakers ratified the proposal on March 30, 1972, during a special session convened for other reasons (Texas Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1)—are still fully onboard with the 1972 ERA to this very day, despite ratifying the 1972 ERA more than half a century ago with the collective understanding at the time that the measure would expire from further state legislative consideration nationwide on March 22, 1979, if the required number of state legislatures did not ratify the initiative by that 1979 deadline; and

WHEREAS, to continue construing the 62nd Texas Legislature’s ratification of the 1972 ERA as still-valid right to this very day, in the year 2026, is a betrayal of the trust of the 62nd Texas Legislature’s members who acted upon the belief that the time-limit contained not only within their own March 30, 1972, state legislative resolution ratifying 1972 ERA (the above-referenced S.C.R. No. 1)—but likewise as clearly articulated in the verbiage of the resolution approved with super-majorities by both houses of the 92nd Congress in 1972 (U.S. House Joint Resolution 208)—was durable and enforceable; and

WHEREAS, it is impossible to predict how, or when, Federal Courts might rule on the question of whether the 1972 ERA is—or is not—part of the United States Constitution, despite its ratification deadline having come and gone in 1979, some 47 years ago; and

WHEREAS, lawmakers in North Dakota—during March of 2021—adopted a resolution clarifying that North Dakota’s own 1975 approval of the 1972 ERA expired on March 22, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Platform of the Texas Republican Party contains Plank No.

16, which reads: “We call upon the Texas Legislature to adopt a resolution clarifying that the 1972 ratification by the 62nd Texas Legislature of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution was valid only through March 22, 1979”; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Republican Precinct Convention of Precinct 332, Travis County, Texas, conducted on Saturday, March 7, 2026, that:

Given the continuous nature of this controversy over the status of the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment, that 2024 Plank No. 16 be respectfully requested to be retained as-is in the 2026 Platform of the Texas Republican Party.

(END)