

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOTICE

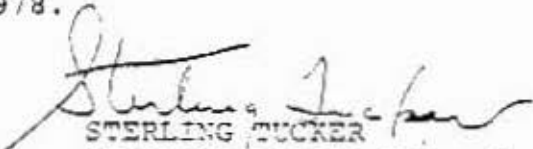
July 14, 1978

D.C. Law 2-79

"District of Columbia Equal Rights  
Amendment (ERA) Ratification Act of 1978"

Pursuant to Section 412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, (PL 93-198) the Act, the Council of the District of Columbia adopted Bill No. 2-249 on first and second readings February 21, 1978 and March 7, 1978, respectively. Following expiration of the ten-day period provided the Mayor, in which no action was taken, pursuant to Section 404(a) of the Act, this legislation was assigned Act No. 2-173, published in the May 5, 1978, edition of the D.C. Register and transmitted to both Houses of Congress for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602 (c) (1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional review period has expired and, therefore cites the following legislation as D.C. Law 2-79, effective June 13, 1978.

  
STERLING TUCKER  
Chairman of the Council

(Vol. 24, D.C. Register, 3284, May 5, 1978)

D. C. LAW

2-79

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 13, 1978

To endorse ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)  
so that no person shall be denied equality of rights  
under the law on account of sex.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

That this act may be cited as the "District of Columbia  
Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Ratification Act of 1978".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia finds  
that:

(a) Women have been second class citizens legally and  
economically as a result of laws which bestow privileges,  
responsibilities, or benefits to one sex and not the other.

(b) Women are generally paid less than men for  
comparable work, or are underemployed relative to their  
abilities. The median salary for full-time female workers  
is currently about three thousand dollars (\$3,000) less per  
year than for men.

(c) Women represent fifty-one (51) percent of the  
population and forty-three (43) percent of the labor force,  
yet only eighteen (18) percent of professionals (doctors,  
lawyers, and judges) are women.

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(d) Women are discriminated against in obtaining credit, signing mortgages, and executing contracts.

Sec. 3. (a) The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), introduced over 50 years ago, will help assure enforcement of equal rights for all persons regardless of sex.

(b) Only thirty-five (35) states have thus far ratified the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). States which have not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia.

(c) The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) must be ratified by three (3) more states in order to have a total of thirty-eight (38) by March 22, 1979 or it will be legislatively dormant for two (2) years before the ratification process begins again.

(d) As of November 1977, legislation has been introduced in Congress to extend the ratification date for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) from March 1979 to March 1986.

Sec. 4. (a) The Council recognizes that formal ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the District of Columbia is not possible in the Constitutional sense, but strongly believes in equal rights for all

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citizens. Therefore, the term "ratify" as employed herein, conforms to standard dictionary usage as "to approve or confirm; especially to give official sanction."

(b) The Council of the District of Columbia considers the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) socially, economically, and politically viable and is concerned that the seven (7) year time limit for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) will restrict full consideration of the amendment by those states which have not ratified the amendment, thereby blocking its passage.

(c) Considering the time limit for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and the pending resolution for an extension of that time limit, the Council of the District of Columbia, in its ratification act, would like to lead the way for additional states to consider and ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

Sec. 5. The Council of the District of Columbia fully and unequivocally ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) which provides that: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect following the period provided for Congressional review of the acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 602(c)(1) of the

Enrolled Original

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District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental  
Reorganization Act.

# RECORD OF OFFICIAL COUNCIL ACTION

Docket No: Bill No. 2-249

First Reading Action: 2-21-78

☒ VOICE VOTE: Adopted Unanimously (3abs) JMoore, Winter, DMoore

Robert A. Williams  
Secretary to the Council

☐ ROLL CALL VOTE:

COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.
TUCKER					MASON					SPALDING				
HARDY					MOORE, D.					WILSON				
BARRY					MOORE, J.					WINTER				
CLARKE					ROLARK									
DEKON					SHACKLETON									
3-Consensus Vote    A. 3-Advised    H. 7-Not Taken														

Secretary to the Council

Amended First Reading Action: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ VOICE VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary to the Council

☐ ROLL CALL VOTE:

COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.
TUCKER					MASON					SPALDING				
HARDY					MOORE, D.					WILSON				
BARRY					MOORE, J.					WINTER				
CLARKE					ROLARK									
DEKON					SHACKLETON									
3-Consensus Vote    A. 3-Advised    H. 7-Not Taken														

Secretary to the Council

Final Reading or Emergency Action: 3-7-78

☒ VOICE VOTE: Adopted Unanimously (3abs) DMoore, JMoore, Hardy

Robert A. Williams  
Secretary to the Council

☐ ROLL CALL VOTE:

COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AGE	SEX	REL.	RES.
TUCKER					MASON					SPALDING				
HARDY					MOORE, D.					WILSON				
BARRY					MOORE, J.					WINTER				
CLARKE					ROLARK									
DEKON					SHACKLETON									
3-Consensus Vote    A. 3-Advised    H. 7-Not Taken														

Secretary to the Council



RECORD OF OFFICIAL COUNCIL ACTION (Page 1)

Docket No: BH 2-249

Presented to the Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Robert A. Williams Jr.  
Secretary to the Council

Action of the Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Approved: ☐ Disapproved:

☐ Disapproved in part --<sup>3</sup>Reference  
Document: \_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>4</sup>Budget Actions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the District of Columbia

☒ Returned Without Action

5 APR 1978

Martin K. Schaller  
Executive Secretary, D.C.

I hereby certify that Council Bill 2-249 was presented to the Mayor of the District of Columbia on March 22, 1978 and that the Mayor neither approved nor disapproved the bill within the ten day period specified in Section 404(e) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, Public Law 95-178 of December 24, 1973.

Martin K. Schaller  
Executive Secretary, D.C.

4/6/78  
Date