

SJR23-006

HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENT

BY REPRESENTATIVE Bottoms

Amend engrossed resolution, page 2, line 8, strike "experiences; and" and substitute "experiences, expressing openly how the original intent of the ERA has now been usurped and replaced; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of Title IX, as part of the Education Amendments of 1972, and with the passage of other laws like it, equal rights for women in sports were duly recognized and rightly protected for some decades after; and".

Page 2, strike lines 2 and 3 and substitute "still being challenged. Bodily autonomy, including the right of a woman to be born, the right of a woman to live according to her own set of moral beliefs about sexuality, the right of a woman to be informed about the full consequences of her medical decisions, and the right of a woman to refuse coerced medical options, is still being infringed. Parental rights, including the right of a mother to teach her values to her daughter, the right of a mother to be apprised of any counseling, mental health, or abortion services being offered to her minor children, the right of a mother to refuse coerced medical treatment on her daughter, and the right of a mother to speak up at school boards without fear of reprisal, are still being infringed. Protection from sexual harassment, including the right of a woman to compete in single-sex athletics without being overshadowed, even physically injured, by a biological male, the right of a woman to use a single-sex restroom and shower facilities without being intimidated or assaulted by a biological male, and the right of a woman to protect herself from violence, including sexual assault, with a firearm, is still being infringed; and".

Page 2, strike lines 29 through 33 and substitute:

"(2) That women do not have to be men to be valuable, that they are valuable as they are, having been likewise endowed by their creator with the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that too many of those rights are still being threatened or infringed, including rights to bodily autonomy, parenting, personal protection and other forms of infringement, including those through legislation and overreach that would obfuscate the very nature of what it means to be a woman; and

(3) That the ERA should be strictly interpreted to the original intent of the words as understood when first introduced; and notwithstanding, should not be interpreted to include a right to abortion nor to expand the definition of "sex" to include anything other than the originally understood distinction between biological males and females;".

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