

## CHAPTER 1205

## EQUALITY OF RIGHTS

First time passed

H. J. R. 12

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the state of Iowa to provide that equality of rights of men and women under the law shall not be denied or restricted by the state or by any of its political subdivisions.

*Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is hereby proposed.

Section one (1) of Article one (I) of the Constitution of the State of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

NEW SECTION. RIGHTS OF PERSONS. Section 1. All men and women are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inalienable rights--among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness. Neither the State nor any of its political subdivisions shall, on the basis of gender, deny or restrict the equality of rights under the law.

Sec. 2. It is declared to be the intent of the general assembly in agreeing to the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa that a classification on the basis of gender shall not be held to deny or restrict equality of rights if it can be established that such classification is necessary to accomplish a compelling state interest.

Sec. 3. The foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is hereby referred to the general assembly to be chosen at the next general election for members of the general assembly, and the secretary of state is directed to cause the same to be published for three consecutive months before the date of said election as provided by law.