

RE: EQUALITY AFFIRMATION RESOLUTION

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment provides that no state can “deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law”,

WHEREAS, Article VI, Clause 2, the Supremacy Clause, establishes the Constitution as the supreme law of the land,

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution does not specifically identify a person based on their sex, race, religion, or national origin, it therefore denies no one equal protection,

WHEREAS, current protections in place for women and minorities by federal law, such as Title 9, federal contract award guidelines, grants and scholarships, and child custody, could be jeopardized with the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment,

WHEREAS, significant legal and cultural advances have been made since the 1972 introduction of the Equal Rights Amendment, parity for women has been afforded in workplace protections, equal pay and employment security,

WHEREAS, the time limit for ratification has expired and subsequently five states had rescinded their approval,

WHEREAS, local elected officials have no authority to accept or reject a Constitutional Amendment,

WHEREAS, Prince William County is a place that respects and values the differences of individuals and strives to ensure equality for all genders,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Board of County Supervisors reaffirms that all persons residing in Prince William County are afforded equal protection under the law and that no county legislation will be passed that infringes or denies one’s Constitutional rights.