



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 08-1009

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Borodkin, Levy, McGihon, Peniston, Primavera, Riesberg, Roberts, Solano, Todd, Butcher, Carroll T., Fischer, Frangas, Gallegos, Green, Hodge, Judd, Kefalas, Kerr A., Labuda, Madden, Marshall, Merrifield, Middleton, Pommer, Romanoff, and Weissmann;
also SENATOR(S) Boyd, Bacon, Gibbs, Gordon, Groff, Isgar, Morse, Romer, Shaffer, Takis, Tochtrop, Veiga, Williams, and Windels.

**CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN.**

WHEREAS, The United States supports and has been an active participant in the drafting of, and is a signatory to, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, but the U.S. Senate has failed to ratify the Convention; and

WHEREAS, The spirit of the Convention is rooted in the goals of the United Nations and the United States, to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women; and

WHEREAS, The Convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on gender against one-half of the world's population; and

WHEREAS, Although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, educational, and other fields during the past century, there is much yet to be accomplished; and

WHEREAS, Through its support, leadership, and prestige, the United States can help create a world in which women are no longer discriminated against and have achieved one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; and

WHEREAS, In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed the Convention and submitted it to the Senate for ratification; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. is the only country to have signed but not ratified the convention; and

WHEREAS, Ratification of the Convention would entitle the United States to join the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which monitors reports of progress in the treatment of women from the countries that have ratified the Convention; and

WHEREAS, As of November, 2007, a total of 185 countries have ratified or acceded to the Convention, and the state legislatures of more than 10 states have endorsed U.S. ratification; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That the members of the Colorado General Assembly support the continuing goals of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and strongly urge the United States Senate to ratify the Convention.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State of the United States, the President and the Secretary of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Chair and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and to each member of the Colorado Congressional delegation.

Andrew Romanoff
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Peter C. Groff
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE