

RESOLUTION NO. 17-4984

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD SUPPORTING THE  
EQUAL MEANS EQUAL INITIATIVE TO RATIFY  
THE EQUAL RIGHT AMENDMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DOES HEREBY  
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the Equal Means Equal Initiative is a movement to complete the ratification of the original Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment affirms that women and men have equal rights and states 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"; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment has been introduced into every Congress since 1923 but has not been ratified and is not law, despite 70% of Americans thinking otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution currently only guarantees equal rights for men and women when it comes to voting and the only way for women to achieve permanent equality is to have it written into the Constitution via the Equal Rights Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Means Equal Initiative stems from the *Equal Means Equal* documentary film, directed by Kamala Lopez, which takes an unvarnished look at where women find themselves today, weaving multiple seemingly disparate issues together to make the case that a lack of full legal equality is having a profound impact on American women's lives; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Means Equal Initiative is an inclusive and non-partisan effort fueled by individuals and organizations across the country; and

WHEREAS, The Equal Means Equal Initiative supports the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in its current form with the objective of educating individuals and engaging communities regarding the role of the Amendment in eradicating inequities facing women across the country; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Hollywood has previously adopted resolutions in support of the Equal Rights Amendment, and will support the Equal Means Equal Initiative by hosting a screening of the documentary as part of its annual Women's Equality Day event; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of West Hollywood hereby supports the Equal Means Equal Initiative.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmember:	D'Amico, Horvath, Meister, Mayor Pro Tempore Duran, and Mayor Heilman.
NOES:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSENT:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Councilmember:	None.

  
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JOHN HEILMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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YVONNE QUARKER, CITY CLERK