

RESOLUTION NO. 141045

Supporting the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and working at the local level with the Women's Foundation to accomplish CEDAW's goals.

WHEREAS, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, and became an international treaty as of September 3, 1981, with 187 United Nations member nations having agreed to be bound by CEDAW's provisions; and

WHEREAS, although women have made gains in the struggle for equality in many fields, much more needs to be accomplished to fully eradicate discrimination based on gender and to achieve one of the most basic human rights, equality; and

WHEREAS, in Missouri, women who work full-time earn 29 percent less than male workers and women earn 71 cents for every 1 dollar earned by men; and

WHEREAS, in Missouri, 27% of counties lack any accredited child care center, including three counties with the highest number of children aged 0-4; and

WHEREAS, in Missouri, just over nine percent of seniors are in poverty, two-thirds of whom are women, and overall the gap between elderly men and women in poverty is 3.7 percent, but in some counties this increases to 8.0 percent; and

WHEREAS, in Missouri, women in public leadership positions are very much in the minority, comprising about 25% of the seats in the General Assembly even though women comprise 51% of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, with knowledge that women and girls make up 51% of Missouri's population, with a desire to ensure these women and girls who live in Kansas City enjoy all the rights and privileges and remedies that are bestowed on all people in the United States, no matter race, national origin, gender or religious belief, and with a purpose to claim worldwide that Kansas City, Missouri is a city within which women can thrive, Kansas City that will not tolerate discrimination against women and girls; and

WHEREAS, CEDAW provides a comprehensive framework for governments to examine their policies and practices in relation to women and girls and to rectify discrimination based on gender; and

WHEREAS, City and County governments have an appropriate and legitimate role affirming the importance of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women in communities as universal norms and to serve as guides for public policy; NOW THEREFORE,

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

Section 1. That the City of Kansas City, Missouri is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls, and to affording them equal academic, economic and business opportunities in Kansas City, Missouri.

Section 2. That the City will work with The Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City to support its research on gender equality and promote the advancement of women in public service.
