Four Freedoms Democratic Club
Resolution in Support of the New York Equal Rights Amendment (Prop 1)

WHEREAS,

- The New York Constitution does not currently contain a comprehensive equal rights provision, a constitutional amendment is necessary to realize the promise of legal equality and justice for all New Yorkers, protect those rights against political whims, and create a clear mechanism to address and defend against violations of those rights;

- New York's Constitution inadequately protects against discrimination for groups who have been historically targeted, including those with disabilities, LGBTQI+ individuals, people of color, immigrants, women, and pregnant people, and those seeking reproductive care, including abortions, notwithstanding New York's robust set of anti-discrimination statutes.

- Abortion care is currently legal in New York, but access to this essential personal and medical decision can depend on the elected state officials at the time. Depending on the leadership in place, pregnant people could face criminal and civil consequences for their pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriage;

- New Yorkers deserve a constitution that recognizes everyone's right to equal rights and justice under the law regardless of who they are, whom they love, or what their families look like;

- A right that is enshrined in the state constitution is insulated from political attacks that seek to ban, eliminate, or reduce access to reproductive care, including abortion, through changes to the state law;

- The US Supreme Court could roll back fundamental rights and protections that advance equality; New York must meet the moment by enshrining protections against discrimination in our state Constitution.

- In November 2024, New Yorkers will vote on the New York Equal Rights Amendment (Proposition 1), which demands the lasting protections of a constitutional amendment that would prohibit discrimination against groups who have been historically targeted, including those with disabilities, LGBTQI+ individuals, elderly New Yorkers, people of color, immigrants, women, and pregnant people;

- Proposition 1 provides that no person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof; provides no person shall, because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed, religion, or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes,

reproductive healthcare and autonomy, be subjected to any discrimination in their civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state.

THEREFORE, Be it that Four Freedoms Democratic Club resolves to:

- Actively support the passage of Proposition 1 during the November 2024 election with the creation of a NY ERA Working Group and,

- Advocate for passage of Proposition 1 through collaboration with organizations and elected officials, mobilizing members and volunteers, conducting outreach and education activities (i.e., canvasses), and maximizing FFDC social media and communications.