A Resolution to Oppose State Question 759

for groups, organizations, unions, houses of worship, etc. (S.Q. 759 will be on all Oklahoma ballots in November, 2012) Recommended by COHRA – Central Oklahoma Human Rights Alliance

State Question 759 is a transparent effort to get Oklahoma's Affirmative Action policies reversed or repealed by a vote of the People. To gain support for this, the language of S.Q. 759 implies that women and minorities receive "preferred treatment" under Oklahoma's Affirmative Action statutes. This is not true.

Oklahoma's Affirmative Action policy is a <u>voluntary compliance statute</u>. State agencies that spend public funds are called to set their own goals annually toward achieving fairness in including women and minorities in hiring and contracting. These goals are submitted to the State Office of Personnel Management, but it is not even mandatory that agencies meet the goals that they have set for themselves.

There are no "quotas" or "set asides" or any mandate governing the selection of students, the hiring of individuals, or the selection of contractors to work for any public agency. The Affirmative Action statute simply insures that such agencies be conscious of the value of fairness toward women and minorities when choices are made or hiring and contracting is done.

Since the passage of Affirmative Action statutes at the federal and state levels, significant progress has been made in extending fair opportunities to women and minorities in hiring, contracting and salaries, but evidence shows that the goal of full fairness and equality of treatment of women and minorities has NOT yet been met.

What's more, states that have passed laws like S.Q. 759 – reversing or repealing their Affirmative Action statutes - have a clear record of sliding backwards in the fair treatment of women and minorities.

This organization, institution, corporation, or house of worship supports the American dream of equal consideration and fair treatment of all people regardless of differences. We support Affirmative Action policies, and encourage citizens to VOTE NO on STATE QUESTION 759.

Signed _____

Position

For (name of group, organization, institution)

Mail signed Resolutions to COHRA, 3000 Paseo Oklahoma City, OK 73103 Email digital Resolutions to cohra@cohra.net Visit our website: cohra.net