

# State of Vermont Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

## Joint Senate Resolution

Offered by Senators Morley and Baruth,

**J.R.S. 37.** Joint resolution supporting, in solidarity with national and international ski organizations and numerous skiers across the globe, the introduction of long-overdue gender equality in Nordic combined Olympic competition.

*Whereas*, Nordic combined is a challenging winter sport, requiring competitors to prove their skills as both Nordic skiers and alpine ski jumpers, and

*Whereas*, the first documented Nordic combined competition occurred in Oslo, Norway, in 1892, 32 years before the inaugural Winter Olympics was held in France in 1924, at which Nordic combined was one of the featured events, and

*Whereas*, the proud century of Nordic combined competition in the Winter Olympics has been tarnished due to its exclusion of women, and

*Whereas*, women have exhibited outstanding Nordic combined performances in non-Olympic competition, and among the premier women's Nordic combined competitors is Vermonter Tara Geraghty-Moats, who has earned national and international recognition, and

*Whereas*, unfortunately for this sport, the exclusion of women from Olympic Nordic combined competition persuaded Tara Geraghty-Moats to pursue her Winter Olympic dreams as a biathlon athlete, and

*Whereas*, ironically, although the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recently "welcomed the Political Declaration adopted unanimously by the 69th session of the [United Nations] Commission on the Status of Women... reaffirming the importance of sport as a vehicle for gender equality," it continued this exclusionary policy for the 2026 Winter Olympics, and

*Whereas*, beyond 2026, Nordic combined Winter Olympic competition may be imperiled, as the IOC may decide to eliminate the sport entirely as a way to end this embarrassing gender exclusion controversy, and

*Whereas*, the International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS), Nordic Combined USA, and male and female Nordic combined skiers from different nations are strongly advocating for the IOC to continue this fabled sport in Winter Olympic competition but with gender equality, *now therefore be it*

### ***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly supports, in solidarity with national and international ski organizations and numerous skiers across the globe, the introduction of long-overdue gender equality in Nordic combined Olympic competition, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to FIS, Nordic Combined USA, U.S. Ski & Snowboard, and the IOC.