

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SJM 8012

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### Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Urging adoption of a treaty fighting discrimination against women.

**Sponsors:** Senators Fraser, Kohl-Welles, Prentice, Fairley, Berkey, Franklin, Regala, Marr, Shin, Eide, Kastama, Murray, Haugen, Oemig, McDermott and Kline.

**Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection**  
**House Committee on Judiciary**

**Background:** The Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979. The Convention became an international treaty on September 3, 1981. One hundred and eighty-five nations, including all of the industrialized world except the United States, had agreed by May 2001 to be bound by the Convention's provisions.

**Summary:** President Obama and the Secretary of State are respectfully urged to place the Convention in the highest category of priority in order to accelerate the treaty's passage through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and full United States Senate with the goal of ratification by the United States. The Washington State Legislature urges the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to pass this treaty favorably out of Committee and urge it be approved by the full Senate.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	33	14
House	74	24

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*