

**ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN
2009-2010 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

PREAMBLE:

The Alice Paul Equal Rights Amendment shall be first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the Legislative Platform of this Federation until equal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because the fundamental law of the land is embodied in the Constitution of the United States and all statutory rights are derived therefrom.

ACTION ITEMS:

The members of the Illinois Federation will concentrate on the following action items:

- Item I:*** Actively work to secure equal opportunities in education and employment to achieve self-sufficiency for all women.
- Item II:*** Actively work to secure improvements in health issues for women to include:
1. The availability of reproductive choices; and
 2. The coverage of preventive maintenance, prenatal care and long term care in Medicaid and Medicare; and
 3. Expanding research on diseases that primarily affect women.
- Item III:*** Actively work for Victim's rights by:
1. Educating individuals that all forms of harassment and violence against women, children and the elderly is unacceptable behavior; and
 2. Promoting support services and facilities for survivors of violence; and
 3. Supporting legislation which provides compensatory and punitive damage awards to victims.
- Item IV:*** Actively work to secure affordable, quality dependent care for all ages.
- Item V:*** Actively study and make recommendations on the proposals for Social Security Reform.
- Item VI:*** Actively support the appointment of qualified women to policy level positions and the election of qualified individuals to public office who endorse the Federation objectives.

ADOPTED by the Convention Body April 2009
Bloomington, IL