



August 14, 2019

Chairman Jerrold Nadler
U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary
2141 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Nadler,

We the undersigned members of the ERA Coalition, the national organization representing more than 100 organizations, leaders across the country, allied organizations and millions of women and men, thank you for the hearing in the Judiciary Committee on April 30, 2019.

We are writing to encourage you to move forward with a mark-up and vote on HJ Res 38, the bill to remove the ratification deadline from the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) legislation, without delay. Legislation to ratify the ERA has been introduced in eleven of the thirteen non-ratified states this year. The passage of HJ Res 38 is an important step to ensuring that these efforts are not in vain, but will lead to real change.

Despite the significant legal and legislative advances that have been made in recent decades, women continue to face discrimination on the basis of sex. The symptoms of this systemic discrimination are clear in the ongoing fights against unequal pay, workplace harassment, pregnancy discrimination, domestic violence and limited access to comprehensive healthcare. It is not enough to treat the symptoms; we must address the root cause of inequality by amending the Constitution.

As you noted in the hearing, it is clear that “we are on the verge of a breakthrough for equality in this country.” Your leadership on advancing this legislation will enable the country to move equality forward both in the law and society. We know that we do not need to convince you of the merits of this legislation, and hope to work with you on ensuring it is a priority. One hundred years is far too long for women to wait.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jessica Neuwirth in black ink.

Handwritten signature of Carol Jenkins in black ink.

Jessica Neuwirth & Carol Jenkins
Co-Presidents, ERA Coalition

Steve Andersson
State Representative for the 65th District, Illinois (Retired)

Patricia Arquette
Actress and Activist

Delegate Hala Ayala
Virginia House of Delegates

Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy
Virginia House of Delegates

Senator Jennifer McClellan
Virginia Senate

Alyssa Milano
Actress and Activist

Senator Pat Spearman
Nevada Senate

Gloria Steinem
Writer and Activist
Board Member, ERA Coalition

Marcy Syms
Independent Director & Philanthropist
Chair, Fund for Women's Equality

Maria T. Vullo
Chair, ERA Coalition



Lead Organizations of the ERA Coalition

Alice Paul Institute

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

By the Women for the Women Vote

Delaware: ERANow

Downtown Women for Change

Equality Now

Equal Means Equal

Equal Means ERA (South Carolina)

Equal Rights Advocates

ERA Action

ERA Illinois

ERA Minnesota

ERA-NC Alliance

ERA Task Force Arizona

Fair Utah

Feminist Majority

Gender Equality Law Center

GLAAD

Legal Momentum

National Equal Rights Amendment Alliance

NCBW (National Congress of Black Women)

National Organization for Women (NOW)
NWPC (National Woman's Political Caucus)
Oklahoma Women's Coalition
PowHerNY
Project 28 Missouri
Rethinking Eve
Union Theological Seminary
UniteWomen.org
VARatifyERA
VoteERA.org
We are Woman
Winston & Strawn, LLP
Women's Media Center (WMC)
YWCA USA

Allied Organizations

American Medical Women's Society
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA
The Athena Society of Tampa Bay
For the Women by the Women Vote
National Council of Jewish Women
National Domestic Workers Alliance
National Urban League
TIME'S UP
Voto Latino
Women's Equality Coalition, Kansas City