

February 4, 2021

President Joseph R Biden Jr. and Vice President Kamala Harris 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden and Vice President Harris,

We send our congratulations on your victory, and look forward to an Administration with many successes.

We write to you as the ERA Coalition, a woman of color-led organization, representing millions of people, more than 200 organizations, leaders across the country, and allied organizations. Our shared goal is to see the Equal Rights Amendment as part of the U.S. Constitution.

We applaud your Biden-Harris Agenda for Women commitment to ensure gender equality in our Constitution. Toward that goal, we ask that you make the Equal Rights Amendment a priority in your first 100 days.

We are counting on you to use the power of the Presidency and Vice-Presidency to ensure that the Archivist publishes the Equal Rights Amendment, with his certificate, as the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

With Virginia's becoming the 38<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the ERA on January 27, 2020, all requirements for it to become the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution have been satisfied. The ERA has yet to be published by the Archivist, however, following the opinion issued in a memo from the Trump Administration's Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel.

We ask you to work with Congress to pass historic resolutions to remove the arbitrary time limit from the preamble and recognize that the Equal Rights Amendment has been ratified by three-fourths of the states and is now the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Last year, the House passed a joint resolution to remove the ratification time limit to clear any barriers to the ERA's adoption. Joint resolutions have been introduced in both the Senate (SJ Res 1) and House (HJ Res 17) in the 117th Congress. We ask that you take action and advocate for the ERA in Congress, making it clear that discrimination on the basis of sex is unconstitutional.

We value your leadership on the ERA throughout your careers. It has been nearly 100 years since this struggle began to enshrine, into the Constitution, that *equality of rights cannot be denied or abridged on account of sex*. We are proud and honored to work with you to realize that the dream of equality is finally secured in the U.S. Constitution. Together we will create a more equal future, lifting up gender equity and all women, especially women of color, Black, Indigenous, transgender, non-binary people, and people with disabilities, those most vulnerable to systemic racism and sexism.

Most Respectfully,

Carol Jenkins

President & CEO, ERA Coalition

Kimberly Peeler-Allen Chair, ERA Coalition

S. Mona Sinha Chair, Fund for Women's Equality

Ellie Smeal President, Feminist Majority

Dolores Huerta
President, Dolores Huerta Foundation

Gloria Steinem Writer and Activist

Alyssa Milano Actor and Activist

## Lead Sponsors of Nevada, Illinois and Virginia ERA Ratifications

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Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy Former Virginia State Delegate Chief Patron of HJ1, Ratification

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Kani Xulam American Kurdish Information Network

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Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA)

Association of Flights Attendants- CWA

Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA)

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Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy

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Marc Dubin, Esq., Executive Director
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Kamala Lopez, Executive Director Equal Means Equal

Noreen Farrell, Executive Director Equal Rights Advocates

Antonia Kirkland, Global Lead, Legal Equality & Access to Justice Equality Now

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Cassie Rubio, Chair The Feminist Front

Eleanor Smeal, President Feminist Majority

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Marian Simmons-St. Clair, International President General Federation of Women's Clubs

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La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc.

Rudy Rodas, Coalition Manager Xinia Bermúdez, Policy Manager Latinx Greeks for America

Virginia Case, CEO League of Women Voters US

Carol Moody, President and CEO Legal Momentum

Lisa Turner, Executive Director LPAC

Kathy Spillar, Executive Editor *Ms. Magazine* 

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Peace Over Violence

Andrea Miller, Executive Director People Demanding Action

Pride at Work, AFL-CIO

Jean Sweeney, Founder Rethinking Eve, LLC

Deshauna Barber, President Service Women's Action Network (SWAN)

Aimee Allison, President She the People

Gloria Calderon, National President Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Señoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority, Incorporated

Amanda Brown Lierman, Executive Director Supermajority

Tina Tchen, CEO TIME'S UP Now

Barbara R. Arnwine
Transformative Justice Coalition

Rev. Serene Jones Union Theological Seminary

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Maria Teresa Kumar, Executive Director Voto Latino

Laura Bell Bundy Women of Tomorrow

Lori Sokol, Ph.D, Executive Director Women's eNews

Carol Tracy, Executive Director Women's Law Project

Rachel Carmona, Executive Director Women's March

Julie Burton, President

Women's Media Center Yael Farber and Haley Florsheim, co-Managing Directors Young Women for US Bobbee Cardillo and Ela Pandya, Co-Conveners **Zonta USA Caucus Tribal Organization Signers** Stacy A. Bohlen, CEO National Indian Health Board Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board **State and Local Organization Signers** 38 Agree for Georgia Albuquerque Chapter of the National Organization for Women American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) 704 Arizona NOW The Athena Society Brooklyn Queens National Organization for Women **Broward for Progress** Business and Professional Women (BPW) of Maryland By The Women For The Woman Vote California Women's Law Center Charlottesville (VA) NOW Charleston Women March Onward

Downtown Women for Change

Columbia (SC) NOW

**Delaware ERA Now** 

Durham NOW
Empire State Indivisible
Equal Means ERA- South Carolina
Equality Utah
ERA Georgia
ERA Illinois
ERA Minnesota
ERA Task Force- Arizona
ERA-NC Alliance
Fairfax County Commission for Women
Fairfax County Council to End Domestic Violence
Fayetteville NC NOW
Florida NOW
Fredericksburg VA NOW
Georgia NOW
General Federation of Women's Clubs Alaska
General Federation of Women's Clubs Illinois
General Federation of Women's Clubs Iowa
General Federation of Women's Clubs Maine
General Federation of Women's Clubs Massachusetts
General Federation of Women's Clubs Michigan
General Federation of Women's Clubs Missouri
General Federation of Women's Clubs New York
General Federation of Women's Clubs North Carolina
General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania

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General Federation of Women's Clubs South Carolina General Federation of Women's Clubs Virginia General Federation of Women's Clubs Wisconsin General Federation of Women's Clubs Wyoming High Sky Farm, Solvang, CA Illinois NOW Indivisible Clackamas (OR) Indivisible FL13 Pinellas County Florida Indivisible Harlem **Indivisible Manatee County** Indivisible NYCD16 Steering Committee Indivisible St. John's **Loudon County NOW** Maryland NOW McHenry County NOW Michigan NOW Mid-Day Women's Alliance of Appleton WI Mid-Willamette NOW Missouri Women's Network Montgomery County Commission for Women National Council of Jewish Women Tallahassee Action Team Nevada NOW **New Jersey NOW** Northwestern Pennsylvania NOW Oklahoma Women's Coalition

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Oregon NOW Pittsburgh for CEDAW Pittsburgh Gender Equity Commission Project 28 Missouri Ratify ERA-NC Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee Santa Fe National Organization for Women Shore Area (NJ) NOW Susan Jolley Awareness Program **Texas NOW** True Blue New York True North Research Universal Unitarian Congregation of the Outer Banks, NC, **Utah ERA Coalition VA Ratify ERA** Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance Washington State NOW We the People of Oswego Indivisible Westchester NOW West Pinellas National Organization for Women Women's Equality Coalition, MO and KS-(KC metro area) Women's Foundation of California Womxn's Health and Reproductive Rights (WHARR)