March 31, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer,

We write to you as the ERA Coalition – a woman of color-led organization – comprised of almost 250 national, state and local women’s, civil, human, LGBTQIA+, disability rights organizations, and labor unions, representing millions of people. We come together to urge you to schedule a vote on H.J. Res 17 (S.J. Res 1), the bill to remove the time limit from the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), without further delay. The House of Representatives voted to pass H.J. Res 17 on March 17, 2021, with bipartisan support. The fate of the ERA now lies in the hands of the Senate.

March 22, 2022, marks the 50th anniversary of the Senate’s passage of the Equal Rights Amendment before sending it to the states for ratification. With Virginia becoming the 38th state to ratify the ERA on January 27, 2020, all requirements for it to become the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution have been satisfied.

The Senate’s actions today are just as critical as they were 50 years ago and will have the impact of bringing our nation’s Constitution into the 21st century. On January 27, 2022, which was the two-year anniversary of Virginia’s ratification of the ERA and the date the ERA went into effect, President Biden called on Congress to pass legislation affirming the ERA’s validity. His remarks followed the current Office of Legal Counsel’s release of a memo confirming that Congress can act to remove the time limit and any ambiguity around the validity of the Equal Rights Amendment’s status as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution.

Despite the significant legal and legislative advances that have been made in recent decades, individuals continue to face discrimination on the basis of sex. The results of systemic discrimination are clear in the ongoing fights against unequal compensation and benefits, workplace harassment, pregnancy discrimination, domestic violence, limited access to
comprehensive healthcare, and more. We are the only industrialized nation with a written Constitution that does not address the denial of rights for more than half of our population.

It has been nearly 100 years since this fight began to enshrine, into the Constitution, that equality of rights cannot be denied or abridged on account of sex. We urge the Senate to join the House in passing this legislation and making history this session.

Sincerely,

Carol Jenkins
CEO & President, ERA Coalition

National Organization Signers

A. Philip Randolph Institute
African American Ministers In Action
American Association of University Women
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
American Federation of Teachers (AFT)
American Medical Women's Association
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA
Association for Women in Psychology (Activism Caucus)
Athlete Ally
Black Women's Roundtable
Breakthrough US
Center for Advanced Public Policy
Coalition of Labor Union Women
Democrats Abroad
End Rape On Campus
Equal Means Equal
Equal Rights Advocates
Equality Now
Esler Family Foundation
The Feminist Front
Feminist Majority
Feminist Majority Foundation
Generation Ratify
GLAAD
GOP4ERA
Johnson Kinney and Zulaica LLP
Justice Revival
Leading Women of Tomorrow
League of Women Voters of the United States
Legal Momentum, the Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund
LPAC Action Network
MANA, A National Latina Organization
Movement of Mothers
Muslims for Progressive Values
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Women Lawyers
National Council of Jewish Women
National Federation of Democratic Women
National Organization for Women
National Organization for Women Foundation
National Urban League
National Women's Political Caucus
Panda Wear
RepresentWomen
Shattering Glass
Studio Airstream
The Policy Project
Regenerative Rising
The Ruth Project
Veris Wealth Partners
We Are Woman
Women's eNews
Women's Equity Center and Action Network (WE CAN)
Women's Law Project
Women's Media Center
Zonta USA Caucus
State and Local Organization Signers

38 Agree for Georgia

Action Ohio Coalition for Battered Women

American Association of University Women - Greenville, SC

Baltimore National Organization for Women

Blue Lotus Ministry

BPW/NC--N.C. Business & Professional Women's Clubs

Brady South Carolina

Brevard National Organization for Women

Brooklyn Queens National Organization for Women

California National Organization for Women

Chapel Hill National Organization for Women

Charleston American Association of University Women

Charlottesville National Organization for Women

Chicago Foundation for Women

CoCo National Organization for Women

Columbia National Organization for Women

DE ERA Now

Democratic Women of Ocean County

Democratic Women's Club of Florida

Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County MD

Downtown Women for Change
Durham, North Carolina National Organization for Women
Equal Means ERA South Carolina
ERA Illinois
ERA Minnesota
ERA Task Force AZ
ERA-NC Alliance
FL0365 Pasco County National Organization for Women
Florida National Organization for Women
Florida NOW Education Fund
Gainesville Area National Organization for Women
Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Georgia National Organization for Women
Greater Orlando National Organization for Women
Greater Portland Chapter National Organization for Women
Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women
Illinois National Organization for Women
Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc
Indiana Federation of Democratic Women
Indivisible Worcester Maryland
Iowa National Organization For Women
Jacksonville, Florida National Organization for Women
Marion NAACP Branch #3059
Maryland Women's Heritage Center
Mid-Day Women's Alliance
Minnesota National Organization for Women
Minnesota Valley National Organization for Women
Missouri National Organization for Women
Missouri Women's Political Caucus
Monroe County National Organization for Women
Montana National Organization for Women
Nevada National Organization for Women
North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
North Carolina National Organization for Women
North Jersey Sierra Group
Northern New Jersey National Organization for Women
Ocean County National Organization for Women
Ohio National Organization for Women
Ohio NOW Education and Legal Fund
Oregon National Organization for Women
Palm Beach County National Organization for Women
Pinellas County National Organization for Women
Project 28 MO
Ratify ERA-NC
Rockbridge Valley National Organization for Women
San Gabriel Valley National Organization for Women
Santa Fe National Organization for Women
Shore Area National Organization for Women
South Carolina American Association of University Women (AAUW)
South Carolina Equal Means ERA
South Jersey National Organization for Women-Alice Paul chapter
Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee of Worcester County MD
Unitarian Universealist Fellowship of Hidalgo County
United Democratic Women
Utah ERA Coalition
VaRatifyERA.org
Virginia National Organization for Women
Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance
Washington State National Organization for Women
West Pinellas National Organization for Women
Women's Equality Day Celebration across Maryland Coalition