



Sample Letters to the Editor (please edit to “make it your own”)

Why is now the time?

It has been one year since the House of Representatives passed a bill removing the deadline on ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), and yet there is still no equality for women in the Constitution. With the myriad of issues taking place in the United States today, including a global pandemic and record unemployment, women *should* be at the forefront of these conversations because they are often disproportionately affected, and yet they are not. It’s only due to the unflagging efforts of my [senator/representative] that women are again coming to the fore on some of these issues in 2021 by [re]introducing a bill to remove the deadline.

Why the ERA?

The ERA would be a powerful new tool to fight systemic inequality and address issues such as gender-based violence, pregnancy discrimination, pay inequity and so much more. [Pennsylvanians/Marylanders/etc] have always known this – in fact, our state ratified the Equal Rights Amendment in [date].

Where we are now

In January 2020, Virginia voted to become the 38th state to ratify the ERA. With that ratification, the ERA has now satisfied all the requirements set forth in the Constitution. The Department of Justice under the Trump Administration has taken the position that the ERA is not valid today because of a seven-year time limit that Congress inserted in the joint resolution when it proposed the ERA back in 1972. That position is now the subject of federal litigation. In the meantime,

Congress could resolve the question by voting to change the joint resolution, removing the time limit.

What we want

[My Rep/Senator is _____.] With bipartisan support and continued leadership from [my Rep/Senator] though, the House and Senate could both take action in this session, finally bringing the ERA to the floor for a vote, and bringing real equality to the United States of America. I'm grateful to my [Rep/Senator's] commitment to the full equality of women and girls. Thank you, [Rep/Senator Name].

This is the time. 2021 is the Year of the ERA.