



June 11, 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

Gloria Steinem  
Writer and Activist

Patricia Arquette  
Actress and Activist

Alyssa Milano  
Actress and Activist

Senator Pat Spearman  
Nevada Senate

Senator Jennifer McClellan  
Virginia Senate

Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy  
Virginia House of Delegates

Delegate Hala Ayala  
Virginia House of Delegates



## Lead Organizations of the ERA Coalition

*Alice Paul Institute*

*American Association of University Women (AAUW)*

*Delaware: ERANow*

*Downtown Women for Change*

*Equality Now*

*Equal Means Equal*

*Equal Means ERA (South Carolina)*

*Equal Rights Advocates*

*ERA Minnesota*

*ERA-NC Alliance*

*ERA Task Force Arizona*

*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)*

*Project 28 Missouri*

*Rethinking Eve*

*Union Theological Seminary*

*UniteWomen.org*

*VAratifyERA*

*VoteERA.org*

*We are Woman*

*Winston & Strawn, LLP*

*Women's Media Center (WMC)*

### **Allied Organizations**

*The Athena Society of Tampa Bay*

*Women's Equality Coalition, Kansas City*