



November 16, 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 urge you to schedule a vote on S.J. Res 1/H.J. Res 17, the resolution to remove the time limit from the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). As you are aware, the resolution is cosponsored by more than the majority of the United States Senate, including the entire Democratic Caucus and Senators Murkowski and Collins. The House of Representatives voted to pass its companion bill, H.J. Res 17, on March 17, 2021, with bipartisan support.

The simple principle of constitutional equality on the basis of sex is overwhelmingly popular with the American public. A poll conducted by the Pew Research Center in the spring of 2020 found 78% support for the ERA being added to the Constitution. A separate poll by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research in January 2020 found that three-quarters of Americans support the ERA and, importantly, that 90% of Democrats and 60% of Republicans were in favor.

In addition to being popular, the recent *Dobbs* decision handed down by the Supreme Court this spring underscores the ERA's modern relevance and potential significance. The ERA would serve as a new tool – for Congress, for federal agencies, and in the courts – to advance equality in the fields of the workforce and pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and violence, reproductive rights, and protections for LGBTQ+ individuals.

Recognition of the ERA as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution will confirm the rightful place of sex equality in all aspects of life and is fundamental to achieving equality in the United

States. We know that you are a strong supporter of equality and justice and urge you to bring SJ Res 1/HJ Res 17 to the Senate floor for a vote and move our democracy forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zakiya Thomas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Zakiya Thomas
ERA Coalition, President & CEO

National Urban League

National Council of Jewish Women

National Women's Law Center

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)