



Board of Directors

October 28, 2021

Carol Jenkins  
CEO & President

Attorney General Merrick Garland  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Jessica Neuwirth  
Co-Founder & President Emerita

Kimberly Peeler-Allen  
Chair, ERA Coalition

Dear Attorney General Garland,

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

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

Leslie Bhutani  
Treasurer

Antuan M. Johnson  
Secretary

When Virginia became the 38<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the ERA on January 27, 2020, all constitutional requirements for the ERA to become the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution were satisfied. Yet, the ERA has not been published by the Archivist, who is deferring to a January 6, 2020 opinion issued by the previous Administration's Office of Legal Counsel.

Ron Baldwin  
Vice-Chair

Suzanne Lerner  
Vice-Chair

Steve Andersson

We urge you to direct your Office of Legal Counsel to withdraw the January 6, 2020 opinion. Among other things, the opinion reaches beyond the issues before the OLC at the time, weighing in on the merits of still-pending congressional action to change and remove the time limit that Congress included in the proposing clause of its 1972 joint resolution. In this respect, the January 2020 OLC opinion conflicts with a prior OLC opinion and intrudes on matters appropriately left to the Legislative Branch.

Devika Bulchandani

Caroline Clarke

Lauren Embrey

The Rev. Dr. Serene Jones

We believe that in issuing its 2020 opinion on the Equal Rights Amendment, the OLC demonstrated an overreach of power by the Executive Branch in an effort to apparently serve the Administration's political agenda. The Constitution does not give any power to the Executive Branch during the amending process. The rights of all Americans should not be obstructed because of this misstep. You have the unique opportunity to correct this error and let history be made.

Dru Levasseur

Alyssa Milano

Carol Robles-Román

Bamby Salcedo

We request that you take immediate action on this important issue, promoting equality and preventing the denial of equal rights on account of sex in our great nation.

Heidi Schreck

Gloria Steinem

Most Respectfully,

Christina Swarns

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Jenkins'.

Thursday Williams

Kamilah Willingham

Carol Jenkins, President & CEO  
& the Board of Directors of the ERA Coalition

Fran Zone

## **National Organizations**

Joan Chrisler  
Activism Caucus of the Association for Women in Psychology

Allison Titman  
Alice Paul Institute

Bart Worden  
American Ethical Union

Jessica Sims  
American Federation of Teachers

Priya Kvam & Marc Sokol  
Breakthrough

Virginia Rodino  
Coalition of Labor Union Women, AFL-CIO

Shari Temple  
Democrats Abroad

Kamala Lopez  
Equal Means Equal

Antonia Kirkland  
Equality Now

Meghan Tschanz  
Faith and Feminism

Eleanor Smeal  
Feminist Majority

Lisa Sharon Harper  
Freedom Road, LLC

Rosie Couture  
Generation Ratify

Sarah Kate Ellis  
GLAAD

Steven Andersson  
GOP4ERA (Republicans for the Equal Rights Amendment)

Allyson McKinney Timm  
Justice Revival

Kindra Celani  
Latter Day Survivors

Ale D'agostino  
Leading Women of Tomorrow

Virginia Kase Solomon  
League of Women Voters of the United States

Lynn Schafran  
Legal Momentum, the Women's Legal Defense Fund

Lisa Turner  
LPAC

Amy Hinojosa  
MANA, A National Latina Organization

Melissa Barnett  
Mothers of Lost Children

Ani Zonneveld  
Muslims for Progressive Values

Terri Poore  
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Jeannette Pai-Espinosa  
National Crittenton

Sandy Oestreich  
National Equal Rights Amendment Alliance 501C3

Kierra Johnson  
National LGBTQ Task Force

Christian F. Nunes  
National Organization for Women

Donna Lent  
National Women's Political Caucus

Tarunjit Butalia  
Religions for Peace USA

Jean Sweeney  
Rethinking Eve

Elise Bryant  
The Coalition of Labor Union Women

Sophia Armen  
The Feminist Front

Susan Swan  
V-Day and One Billion Rising

Eileen Davis  
VA Ratify ERA

Kati Hornung  
Vote Equality US

Leanne DiLorenzo  
Vote ERA

Alaina LaTourette  
We Are Woman

Lori Sokol  
Women's eNews

Stephanie McGencey  
Women's Equity Center and Action Network

Kim Russell  
Women's March

Julie Burton  
Women's Media Center

Bobbee Cardillo & Ela Pandya  
Zonta USA Caucus

## **State Organizations**

Michael Smalz  
ACTION OHIO Coalition for Battered Women

Freeda Cathcart  
By The Women For The Women Vote

Charlotte Gibson  
Charlottesville NOW (National Organization for Women)

Suzanne C. Moore  
Delaware ERA Now

Gena Bone  
Downtown Women for Change

Barbara Fry  
Equal Means ERA (SC)

Lori Bunton  
Equal Rights Amendment North Carolina Alliance (ERA-NC Alliance)

AJ Conroy  
ERA Illinois

Betty Folliard  
ERA Minnesota

Dianne Post  
ERA Task Force AZ

Freeda Cathcart  
General Federation of Women's Clubs - Star Womans Club

Diana Oswalt  
Knox Co Victim Assistance Prog

Judy Lotas  
League of Women Voters of Dare County, NC

Sasha Goodfriend  
Mass NOW

Sally Wagner  
Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation

Stephen Wanczyk-Karp  
National Association of Social Workers Connecticut Chapter

Stair Calhoun  
Network NOVA

Jeri Burton  
Nevada NOW

Kathleen Lockwood  
North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCCADV)

Diane Scarangella  
Northern NJ NOW

Carolyn Casper  
Ohio National Organization for Women

Erica Benson  
Project 28 MO

Sharon J Hill  
Public Eye Relations

Roberta Madden  
Ratify ERA-NC

Judy Kluger  
Sanctuary for Families

Emily Bell McCormick  
The Policy Project

Devin Johnson  
Utah Beauty Project

Kelly Jones  
Utah ERA Coalition

Frank Brannan  
Utah's CD4 Coalition

C.R. Valeriann  
Women's Equality Day Celebration across Maryland Coalition