

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell,

In just a few weeks, on March 22, we will mark the 50th anniversary of congressional passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). In anticipation of this anniversary, and as Members of Congress committed to constitutional equality, we write to request immediate action by the Senate to affirm the ERA as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. March is Women’s History Month—the perfect time for this historic action.

The ERA has a long history of bipartisan support. Just last March, H.J. Res. 17, which would eliminate the time limit included in the Amendment’s preamble, passed the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote. As you are no doubt aware, the Senate companion bill, S.J. Res. 1, also enjoys bipartisan support. Bipartisan and bicameral congressional action on the ERA will once again make clear our commitment to constitutional equality.

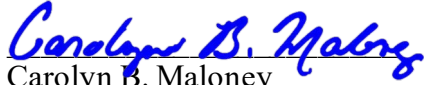
Just over two years ago, the ERA was ratified by the state of Virginia—the 38th and final state needed to meet the constitutional requirements for ratification.¹ On January 27, 2022, the second anniversary of that historic vote and the date the ERA went into effect, President Biden made a statement in support of the ERA and called on Congress “to act immediately to pass a resolution recognizing ratification of the ERA.”²

We urge you to heed the President’s call for action and schedule a vote on the Senate floor for S.J. Res. 1 in March. Equality cannot wait any longer.


¹ U.S. Const. art. V.

² The White House, *Statement from President Biden on the Equal Rights Amendment* (Jan. 27, 2022) (online at www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/01/27/statement-from-president-biden-on-the-equal-rights-amendment/).

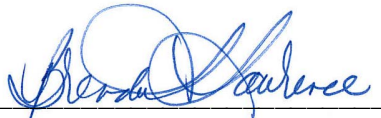
Sincerely,



Carolyn B. Maloney
Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform



Jackie Speier
Co-Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



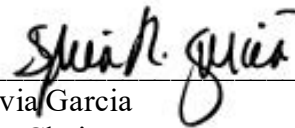
Brenda Lawrence
Co-Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Lois Frankel
Co-Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Veronica Escobar
Vice Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Sylvia Garcia
Vice Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Tom Reed
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform