THE FIGHT FOR PASSAGE OF THE ERA
OUR DISTINGUISHED PANEL

Carol Jenkins
Co-President and CEO of ERA Coalition/Fund for Women’s Equality

Linda Coberly
Chicago Managing Partner of Winston & Strawn, LLP

Cheryl L. Behymer
Partner Fisher & Phillips, LLP
“Certainly the Constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only issue is whether it prohibits it. It doesn’t.”

-Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia
DID YOU KNOW?

The Constitution currently does NOT guarantee equal rights for women.

But 80% of Americans think the constitution does.
INTRODUCTION
What is the ERA?

- The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
  - Prohibits discrimination against girls and women on the basis of sex
- The ERA Coalition
  - Working to pass and ratify the ERA
- The Fund for Women’s Equality (FFWE)
  - Works to increase public understanding of the need to end sex inequality
- 30 years in the making
  - The need for an effective and permanent sex equality guarantee remains
- Energy & Momentum fueled by
  - Veteran activists
  - New generation
  - Social Media
WHY DO WE NEED THE ERA?

To put women on equal footing, the ERA would ensure that government programs don’t have a negative impact on women and address cases involving:

- Public education
- Divorce
- Child custody
- Domestic violence and assault
- Sexual harassment in the workplace
- Sexual discrimination in the armed services
94% of Americans SUPPORT an amendment to the US constitution that guarantees equal rights for both men and women.
WHY NOW?
Polling

The ERA Coalition is the principal architect of widely referenced public opinion data. We conduct surveys and polling to explore how Americans feel about equality, and use it to educate the public.

An entire generation of feminists has come of age largely knowing the E.R.A. as their mothers’ and grandmothers’ fight. That’s if they know about the amendment at all — a 2016 poll conducted by E.R.A. supporters found that 80 percent of respondents thought the Constitution already explicitly guaranteed equal rights for women and men.
TOGETHER WE RISE
Harvey Weinstein indicted on new sex assault charges, could face life in prison

Post-Weinstein, These Are the Powerful Men Facing Sexual Harassment Allegations

#MeToo

MOMENTUM
On the Golden Globes Red Carpet, Fighting Back in Black
"Women are half of the population and yet the only right that we are guaranteed in the Constitution is the right to vote." - Congresswoman Maloney

There is an 'avalanche' of women running for office

#MeToo is changing how younger women see politics

Has the #MeToo movement made you think about electing more women to political office?

- Yes: 36%
- Don't know/No opinion: 37%
- No: 27%

Source: Vox/Morning Consult

Women under 35

Women over 35
MOMENTUM
A New Era for the ERA

The Time Is Now For The Equal Rights Amendment

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

#PASSTHEERA

* IS NOT EQUAL TO MEN IN THE EYES OF THE LAW

Forbes

- The time is ripe
  - Women's March, #MeToo Movement
- Renewed enthusiasm for the ERA
  - ERA ratified by Nevada (2017) and Illinois (2018)
  - Ongoing efforts in Virginia, North Carolina, Virginia, Florida and Utah
- New leadership
  - Carol Robles-Román as Co-President and CEO of the ERA Coalition and the Fund for Women's Equality (2018)
A New Era for the ERA: Equal Rights Amendment Shadow Hearing

JUNE 6 2018

2247 Rayburn HOB
3:00PM TO 5:00PM

Testimony from:
Carol Robles-Román, Co-President & CEO, ERA Coalition
Alyssa Milano, Actress & Activist
Jessica Lenahan, Plaintiff. SCOTUS case Castle Rock v. Gonzales
Additional witnesses to be announced.

HOSTED BY CONGRESSWOMAN CAROLYN B. MALONEY

'We have waited a hundred years for this moment.' — Activist and actress Alyssa Milano testified before Congress to fight for equal rights for women.
MOMENTUM
Congressional Hearing

Fight for Equal Rights Amendment Enters a New Era

By John Donovan  Jun 11, 2018

- June 2018 - 1st hearing on the ERA in Congress in 33 years
  - Testified to 13 members of Congress, working with Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and #MeToo activist Alyssa Milano
  - Alyssa Milano’s testimony featured by NowThis viewed over 1M times
  - Hearing video viewed over 90,000 times
The Equal Rights Amendment Was Just Ratified by Illinois. What Does That Mean?

Supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment cheered for its passage outside the Illinois Capitol on Tuesday. The vote was a major milestone because the 37th state to ratify the amendment.

Photo by Sarah Silbiger/The New York Times

The Equal Rights Amendment’s surprise comeback, explained

If one more state ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment, it could make it into the Constitution.

Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images

Why the Equal Rights Amendment Still Matters

The push to enshrine women’s rights in the Constitution is about to hit an important milestone. But can it overcome the political and legal obstacles?

By, STEPHANIE RUSSELL-KRAFT

June 14, 2019
MOMENTUM
The ERA Coalition in the Press

GLAMOUR
The ERA Is Back in the News—This Is Why You Should Be Paying Attention

Bloomberg
Editorial Board
The ERA Is Still Worth Supporting
A guarantee of equal rights regardless of sex belongs in the Constitution.

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness
Will it get it wrong about the ERA — and women
I stand for #EqualRightsNow with Gloria Steinem and Dorothy Pitman Hughes! Support the ERA coalition and help get...

The Equal Rights Amendment - March 2017

Sen. Dianne Feinstein - @SenFeinstein - Mar 15
I'm celebrating #WomensHistoryMonth by calling on my Senate colleagues to #PassTheERA. The Equal Rights Amendment will finally, expressly prohibit gender-based discrimination in our Constitution - and that's long overdue.

Sen. Maggie Hassan - @SenatorHassan - Mar 15
Let’s give Justice Ginsburg a birthday gift and finally #PassTheERA. #EqualRightsNow #HouseDemocrats

"If I could choose an amendment to add to the Constitution, it would be the Equal Rights Amendment. I would like my granddaughters, when they pick up the Constitution, to see that women and men persons of equal stature – I’d like them to see that is a basic principle of our society." - Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
CAMPUS ERA DAYS
Spreading the word about the ERA

- Engaging with young people around the country to spread awareness about the ERA
- Speaking with campuses across the country
  - Georgia
  - Massachusetts
  - Mississippi
  - New York
  - North Carolina
  - Ohio

Did you know that women are not guaranteed equality under the constitution?

Campus ERA Day 2018
Join us on April 26th 6PM EDT for a viewing of the short film 50/50 followed by a live Q&A session

PANEL INCLUDES: Moderator Carol Jenkins
Academy Award Winning Activist Patricia Arquette
ERA Coalition Co-President and former NYC Deputy Mayor Of Legal Affairs, Carol Robles-Roman
Nevada State Senator Pat Spearman

Location: Roosevelt House
Visit www.roosevelthouseera.org

With Exclusive Video Messages from:
Feminist Icon Gloria Steinem And Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay

ERA Information:
Visit www.eracoalition.org

N=Women's Action League
L=Lawyer's Alliance for Women's Rights
CAMPUS ERA DAYS
Spreading the word about the ERA

- Panelists
  - Patricia Arquette
  - Carol Robles-Román
  - Pat Spearman
  - Carol Jenkins, moderator

Dr. Patricia "Pat" Spearman @SenatorsSpearman · Apr 26
Super excited for Campus ERA Day today @Roosevelt_House
with @PattyArquette, @CRoblesRoman, @CarolJenkins, and @ERAcoalition! #ERAnow #EqualityForAll

Patricia Arquette PattyArquette · May 31
The fact that mainstream media is not covering the ERA
ratifying in 2 states this year shows you misogyny in media
@cnn @maddow Come on people.
THANK YOU TO OUR DISTINGUISHED PANEL

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