



ARIZONA BLACK BAR

JUNE 16, 2019

Hon. Karen Fann, President Arizona State Senate
Hon. Rusty Bowers, Speaker Arizona State House
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85009

Dear Madame President Fann and Mr. Speaker Bowers:

I write to you on behalf of the Arizona Black Bar as its President. We urge you to use your authority in the Arizona State Legislature to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Since our original formation in 1971 as the Hayzel D. Daniels Bar Association, the Arizona Black Bar (“ABB”) has advocated for the equality of all people. Now, we would like to emphasize the importance of gender equality in our schools, workplaces and communities.

The Equal Rights Amendment would ensure that our judicial system and society at large would consider gender equality a fundamental, constitutional right. The Equal Rights Amendment would require judges to apply strict scrutiny when deciding gender discrimination cases, as they do in cases of racial or religious discrimination. Moving forward, it is important to ABB that gender discrimination is scrutinized as harshly as other forms of discrimination. The ABB believes the prioritization of gender equality is long overdue and eagerly supports the Arizona State Legislature in ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment this legislative session.

Thank you for considering the opinion of the Arizona Black Bar regarding this important issue. Please feel free to contact me on behalf of ABB if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Best Regards,

/s/ Kina Harding

Kina Harding
President

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Kina Harding

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