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Your Name

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Your Address

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Your City and Zip Code

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 Today’s Date

 Regarding: H.J. Res 38, removing the deadline for ratification of ERA

Dear Congressional Representative\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

Washington, DC 20515

As a constituent, I request that you co-sponsor H.J. Res 38 remove the deadline for ratification of the ERA. If you already sponsor it (Grijalva, Gallegos, Stanton, Kirkpatrick, O’Halleron), thank you. The ERA was first passed by Congress in 1972 and sent out to the states. To date, 37 of 38 states have ratified.

Arizona was once a beacon for women’s rights. Women could vote in Arizona in 1912, and Rachael Berry, from Apache County, was the first woman legislator elected in Arizona in 1914 before women in the rest of the country could even vote. Isabel Greenway was Arizona’s first congresswoman and only representative from 1933-1935. Arizona holds the record for the most women governors (four) and having women hold all state offices at the same time (1998). The first woman appointed to the Supreme Court was Sandra Day O’Connor, the first legislator to introduce the ERA in AZ.

The ERA has enjoyed massive public support for decades. A 2012 poll for the Daily Kos/Service Employees International Union (SEIU), posed the question, “Do you think the Constitution should guarantee equal rights for men and women, or not?” Ninety-one percent agreed that the Constitution should contain a guarantee of equal rights between the sexes. A 2001 Opinion Research Corporation commissioned by the ERA Campaign Network of Princeton, NJ found 96 percent of respondents believed that male and female citizens should have equal rights and 88 percent thought that the U.S. Constitution should make that clear.

Arizona can make history and reclaim its place in the march toward equality by ensuring that the ERA is ratified and the artificial deadline is not a barrier.

 Sincerely,

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Your Name