

What is the Equal Rights Amendment?

Section 1. Women shall have equal rights in the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

From www.equalrightsamendment.org

The proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) states that the rights guaranteed by the Constitution apply equally to all persons regardless of their sex. After the 19th Amendment affirming women's right to vote was ratified in 1920, suffragist leader Alice Paul introduced the ERA in 1923 as the next step in bringing "equal justice under law" to all citizens.

In 1972, the ERA was finally passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification. The original seven-year time limit was extended by Congress to June 30, 1982, but at that deadline, the ERA had been ratified by only 35 states, [three states](#) short of the 38 required to put it into the Constitution. The ERA has been introduced into every [Congress](#) since the deadline, and beginning in 1994, ERA advocates have been pursuing two different routes to ratification:

- the traditional process described in [Article V of the Constitution](#) (passage by a two-thirds majority in both the Senate and the House of Representatives, followed by ratification by three-quarters of the states), and
- the innovative "three-state strategy" (ratification in three more of the [15 state legislatures](#) that did not ratify the ERA in 1972-82, based on [legal analysis](#) that when three more states vote yes, this process could withstand legal challenge and accomplish ratification of the ERA).

Resources Pro and Con for ERA

<http://www.equalrightsamendment.org/faq.htm#q13>

**Frequent asked questions...gives overview of ERA. This is arranged differently than your first con source. I view it as an overview and not really pro or con.

Pro

http://www.equalrightsamendment.org/misc/ERA_why_we_need.pdf

National Council of Women's Organizations

<http://feministmajority.org/we-still-need-the-era-9-reasons-why-9-decades-into-the-fight/>

Feminist Majority...9 Reasons why we still need ERA

Con

<http://www.arragopwing.com/eraposition.html>

States the ERA and frequently asked questions

6 Reasons to oppose ERA, 2007 Arkansas Republican Assembly

Pro/Con

<https://www.quora.com/Does-the-Constitution-need-an-Equal-Rights-Amendment-to-assure-gender-equality#>

Responses of different lawyers and analysts