

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Supporting the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Offered by the League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area
Find additional information at http://lwwcharleston.org/social_justice.html

The 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church in support of the theological principle that all humans are created in the image of God resolved to renew its historic support of passage of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and that inclusion of its support to be posted on the “Supporters” page of the Equal Rights Amendment website. (GC 2009 p368-369)

Now, this year, South Carolina is in a position to become the last state needed to finally put the ERA over the threshold to become the 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Legislature was presented with two bills – one from Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter (D) of Orangeburg, and another from Charleston Representatives Leon Stavrinakis (D) and Peter McCoy (R) – to ratify the ERA 47 years after it was first proposed.

Representatives McCoy and Stavrinakis have deferred to Representative Cobb-Hunter and support her ERA joint resolution, H. 3391. The ERA would guarantee equal rights to all Americans, regardless of sex. It reads:

***Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged
by the United States or by any state on account of sex.***



State Rep. Peter McCoy Jr.:

“Let’s dispel a myth; most Americans think that women have equal rights grounded in the US Constitution. They do not, as the late Justice Antonin Scalia pointed out in 2010. What women have depended upon is statutory or changeable law from the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. That law is still on the books but key parts are increasingly unenforceable; a law is only as good as its enforcement.”

Here is how you can take action today

Contact your legislator. You can reach them here: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/legislatorssearch.php>

Tell them you support the ERA and want them to as well. Personal conversations and personal letters are most effective. Email is also a way to communicate.

Join “Equal Means ERA” on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EqualMeansERA/>) to educate yourself and find current information.