Contact:   
[INSERT NAME, email, phone number]

Dear Editor:

Did you know that our constitution does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex? While steps have been taken to forbid discrimination at the federal and state levels, the fight to have such a constitutional amendment, known as the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), has been in the works for almost 100 years. With Virginia becoming the 38th state to ratify the ERA this past January, we have come  tantalizingly close to finishing this fight.

Thirty-eight states are needed to ratify the ERA for this amendment to become a reality; however, Congress set a deadline of ratification for 1982. On February 13, the House of Representatives passed H.J. Res 79, which removes the that deadline. Now, we urge the Senate to join the House in supporting this legislation removing the ERA deadline by passing S.J. Res. Ninety-four percent of the American public supports the ERA.

It’s undeniable that women have made significant progress toward equality over the years. However, women continue to battle systematic discrimination in the form of unequal pay, workplace harassment, and domestic violence, to name a few.

[INSERT STORY OF SEX BASED DISCRIMINATION IN YOUR STATE OR EXAMPLE OF WHY THE ERA IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR STATE]

Tackling these issues will take more than just reactionary solutions. we must address the root cause of inequality by amending our constitution. The ERA will pave the way for further legislative progress towards gender equality and will allow the courts to closely scrutinize sex-based discrimination.

[INSERT LEAGUE NAME] calls upon Senator [NAME OF SENATOR] to vote YES on S.J. Res. 6 and ensure the final ratification of the ERA. We are closer now than we have ever been to seeing this amendment become a part of our constitution and affirming our values as a nation. The League of Women Voters has always fought for equality in our citizen-led democracy, and we believe that ensuring equal rights under the law for ALL sexes is an important step in making our democracy stronger and more inclusive.

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[The League of Women Voters of XXXX] is a nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy and voter information organization. For 100 years, the League of Women Voters has empowered voters and defended democracy.