**State and Local Leagues: Letter to the Editor Template on the Equal Rights Amendment (CY25)**

*The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is the 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The ERA protects the equality of rights under the law regardless of sex, and it is imperative to uphold the rights of nearly 170 million women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ people in the US.*

*Following the 2024 presidential election, LWVUS and the broader League network worked feverishly at all levels to urge President Biden to instruct the National Archivist to certify and publish the fully ratified ERA in the US Constitution, where it rightfully belongs.*

*On January 17, 2025, President Biden released a White House* [*statement*](https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/17/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-the-equal-rights-amendment/) *affirming that the ERA is the 28th Amendment and the law of the land. While the National Archivist did not take any action, the Amendment is valid “to all intents and purposes,” according to Article V of the Constitution.*

*This Women’s History Month,* ***we are providing a letter to the editor template (LTE) for state and local Leagues to submit to your state and local papers****, respectively, to educate communities across the country. We have highlighted the places for your tailoring. If you are a local League planning to submit an LTE to a newspaper that serves your entire state, be sure to coordinate with your state League to avoid duplication or same-day submission.*

*Most news outlets publish instructions on how to submit an LTE. The directions will include the word limit (please be sure to adhere for the greatest chance of publication), email address for where to send your letter, and often guidelines on what the paper looks for in LTEs. Find more* [*guidance*](https://www.lwv.org/league-management/templates-graphics/tips-op-eds-and-letters-editor) *on LTEs on the League Management Site.*

*If you submit an LTE or have any questions, please contact Rebecca Goldman at* [*rgoldman@lwv.org*](mailto:rgoldman@lwv.org) *for record-keeping and support.*

*For more information on the ERA, visit LWVUS’ LMS* [*Toolkit*](https://www.lwv.org/ERAToolkit)*.*

Contact:   
[INSERT NAME, LEAGUE NAME, EMAIL, PHONE NUMBER]

**Women’s History Month: We’ve Won Equal Rights but the Fight for Equality Continues**

Dear Editor:

This Women’s History Month, we celebrate the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which constitutionally protects equal rights under the law regardless of sex. When the ERA was fully ratified in 2020, national news coverage was woefully quiet. As our nation reels from our government’s growing attacks on civil and human rights, we must educate our communities about this vital amendment.

The ERA has met all ratification requirements: Congress passed it in 1972 with a 2/3 vote, and in 2020, Virginia became the 38th and final necessary state to ratify it. At that point, as per Article V of the Constitution, the ERA became a valid part of the Constitution “to all intents and purposes.” The ERA has not been published, but it is rightfully the 28th Amendment and our position is that it is enforceable. Reaffirming this, on January 17, 2025, President Biden released a White House statement affirming that the ERA is the “law of the land.”

The ERA is an essential tool for the judicial branch to prohibit sex discrimination and protects against the rollback of equal rights, making it essential to our continued fight against sex discrimination, including unequal pay, workplace harassment, pregnancy discrimination, domestic violence, limited access to comprehensive health care, discrimination against LGBTQIA+ individuals, and more.

This month, we honor that equal rights are the law of the land, and we commit to continuing to fight for the promise of our democracy: equality for all.