

ERA- The elections can make the difference

States that have not yet ratified the Equal Rights Amendment are now electing the legislators who can ratify it before the deadline.

A majority of the citizens in the unratified states *want* their legislatures to ratify the Amendment; and there are qualified, reliable pro-Amendment candidates ready to replace the opponents of equal rights for women.

But pro-ERA challengers need *your* help to unseat powerful incumbent legislators.

The NWPC/ERA Fund gives you a chance to support those state legislative candidates who *most* need your backing, and who can do the *most* to put the Equal Rights Amendment into the Constitution. The NWPC/ERA Fund has investigated each of the elections in the unratified states and zeroed in on the critical races—the races that pro-ERA candidates can win, the races that *will* tip the balance next time the Amendment comes up for a vote.

Not since the founding of our nation have the rights of so many Americans depended on the election of state legislators.

A simple statement of equality

The Equal Rights Amendment has no vague wording or fine print. Every American can read and understand what it says:

Section 1: 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.

That's all there is to the Amendment; just a single, clear principle of equal justice for all.

We are the majority

Most Americans want the Equal Rights Amendment in the Constitution:

The majority has supported the ERA through their Senators and Representatives, who voted overwhelmingly to propose the Amendment back in 1972.

The majority has supported the ERA through their state legislators in the 35 states that have already ratified the Amendment. The legislatures that have already ratified represent more than 150 million Americans.

The majority has supported the ERA in public-opinion polls, which show that most Americans all across the country favor the Amendment.

But a few legislators in the unratified states are playing politics with our Constitution and ignoring the clear will of their constituents. Some legislators have broken specific campaign promises that they would vote for ratification.

Unless these legislators are voted out, their stalling and deception can deprive 110 million women and girls of equal Constitutional rights.



The good laws

Many laws have been passed to prohibit sex discrimination in *some* areas of employment, housing and credit. But this piecemeal approach lets many kinds of discrimination slip through the cracks.

The equality granted by these laws can be revoked any time the mood of the lawmakers changes.

Only the Equal Rights Amendment can make equality for women a fundamental, permanent right that no law can contradict.

The bad laws

There are many laws on the books right now that restrict women's rights. They prove that women will not be equal under the law until the Constitution guarantees that equality.

In West Virginia and Maine, if a husband and wife run a business together, the profits belong to the husband.

In Georgia, the family home belongs exclusively to the husband, even if the wife is the principal wage earner, supports the husband, and makes the payments on the home.

In most states if a wife dies, her husband pays no inheritance tax. But if the husband dies, his wife *must* pay inheritance tax.

In Virginia, a husband's property cannot be seized to pay his wife's debts. A wife's property, however, can be seized to pay her husband's debts.

These are just some of the discriminatory laws that are currently on the books. Without the guarantees of the Equal Rights Amendment, legislators are free to pass more laws like these.

What is the NWPC/ERA Fund?

Members of the National Women's Political Caucus, acting as individuals, formed the NWPC/ERA Fund to put campaign dollars into key unratified state elections and to follow up with hard state lobbying for the Equal Rights Amendment.

The National Women's Political Caucus is the political arm of the women's movement. For seven years, the Caucus has been working to increase the number of women in our government and to win full protection for women under the Constitution.

Political action in the unratified states is the *only* task of the NWPC/ERA Fund, so you know exactly what your money will be doing. We use the knowledge and the time of experienced political organizers who have been planning strategy in the unratified states since Congress first proposed the Equal Rights Amendment.

It takes money to put this talent and experience to work. Informing and persuading thousands of voters requires printing, postage, telephone banks and advertising. We plan intensive campaigns in a dozen states where the future of the Amendment could be decided.

We can't mount this massive campaign without *your* help. Your contribution will give pro-ERA candidates a real boost toward victory and show that you believe in the simple justice of equal rights for all Americans.

We must have equal rights now

Dedicated women and men have spent half a century coaxing the Equal Rights Amendment through the slow process of Congressional action and ratification by the states.

Without the ERA, a whole generation of American girls will grow up with unequal educational opportunity, with careers closed to them by discrimination and quotas, and with wages far lower than men who have the same ability and education.

There is no doubt that someday we will have an Equal Rights Amendment. But for a whole generation of American women, "someday" is too late.

We need your contribution today Your contribution to the NWPC/ERA Fund is important. In the tight budgets of state legislative races, any contribution is a major contribution. And many of our candidates are challengers who will be short of funds. The contribution *you* make through the NWPC/ERA Fund will make a big difference.

- \$15 can print brochures to reach 1000 voters
- \$25 can buy gas for 1 car to get voters to the polls
- \$50 can buy one radio spot or newspaper ad
- \$100 can install a telephone bank for calling voters in the last critical weeks before the election

How much we can do depends on you. Whether you give \$15, \$50, \$100 or more, your contribution can make *the* difference, between defeat or ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

A contribution for equal rights

YES, I want to help the NWPC/ERA Fund put money into the campaigns of state legislative candidates who will vote the Equal Rights Amendment into the Constitution.

I'm enclosing my contribution for EQUAL RIGHTS in the amount of—

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 Other: \$_____

Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

State laws require this information:
Occupation _____
Principal place of business _____
Please make your check payable to "NWPC/ERA Fund" and mail it with this coupon to:

**NWPC/ERA Fund
1411 K Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20005**

Please make check payable to NWPC ERA Fund and mail with this card to 1411 K Street NW, Suite 1110, Washington, D.C. 20005. Your contribution applies toward the federal political contribution tax credit of up to \$50 (\$100 on a joint return).

Paid for by NWPC/ERA Fund,
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1980 is the last year to change the legislatures that will vote on ERA.

Florida

The Florida Senate is 2 votes away from ratification.

Illinois

The Illinois Senate is 6 votes away.

Missouri

The Missouri Senate is 5 votes away.

North Carolina

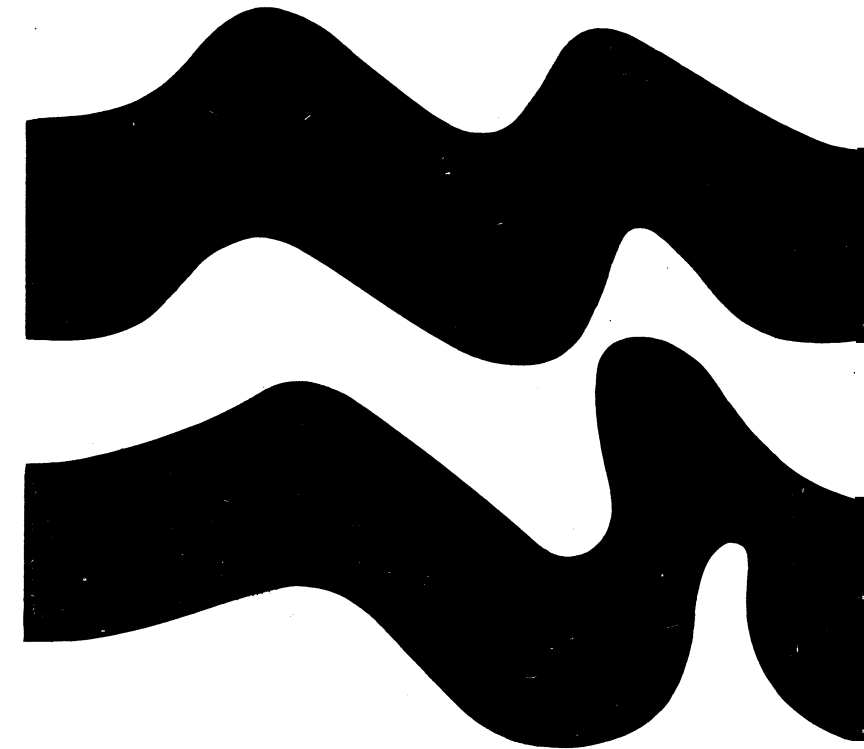
The North Carolina Senate is 2 votes away.



**NWPC/ERA
Fund**

**1411 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005**

*There are
13 votes
between
equality
and you ...*



**National Women's Political Caucus
Equal Rights Amendment Fund**



OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

November 25, 1980

Ms. Jessica Mix
Canvass Director
National Women's Political Caucus
Equal Rights Amendment Fund
80 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Ms. Mix:

Please be advised that your request for permission to conduct a door to door canvass for the purpose of raising money to support political campaigns in states where the ERA was ratified was referred to the Police Department for action.

Your kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/dl

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National Women's Political Caucus
Equal Rights Amendment Fund

1411 K Street N.W., Suite 1110
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 347-4456

80 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 451-9294

November 17, 1980

Mr. Paul Healy
City Clerk of Cambridge
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02130

Dear Mr. Healy,

The National Women's Political Caucus is now conducting a door to door canvass for the purpose of raising money to support political campaigns in states that have yet to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. It is therefore vital that we carry out this fundraising in both ratified and unratified states.

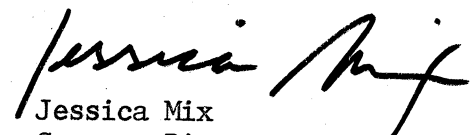
We request permission to canvass in Cambridge beginning as soon as possible for a duration of ninety days.

For your records, the NWPC ERA Fund, based in Washington, D.C., is an unincorporated association of Members of the NWPC Inc., formed as a Political Action Committee to elect pro-ERA legislators in unratified states.

The usual procedure for this activity is to file a list of names, addresses and dates of birth with the local municipality prior to commencement of the canvass. We also provide our staff with picture identification card, and work Monday thru Friday from 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

If you have a local law or charter that has additional requirements please remit said law. If you have any questions please call at our local office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Jessica Mix
Canvass Director



NWPC/ERA FUND

National Women's Political Caucus
Equal Rights Amendment Fund

1411 K Street N.W., Suite 1410
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 347-4456

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS ERA FUND?

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1. What is the National Women's Political Caucus?

The NWPC is a multi-partisan organization of more than 45,000 members and supporters throughout the country. Through our Democratic and Republican Task Forces, our members participate actively in the party of their choice helping to open up the political process to equal access for women and men. As such, NWPC is the political arm of the women's movement, teaching women how to become more effective leaders in their communities and encouraging them to run for elective office.

NWPC also lobbies on issues of direct concern to its members such as reproductive freedom, prevention of domestic violence, funding for day care, Social Security benefits for widows, pension rights, gay rights, and other legislative matters.

2. What is the NWPC ERA Fund?

The NWPC ERA Fund is a political action committee (PAC) that makes contributions to pro-ERA legislative candidates in unratified states. The ERA Fund also contributes to lobbying efforts within the unratified states to help ensure passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

3. Are contributions to NWPC ERA Fund tax deductible?

No. BUT your contribution does apply toward the federal political contribution tax credit. An individual may subtract half their contributions up to \$50 (\$100 on a joint return) from their actual tax owed, i.e. if you make a \$100 contribution to the NWPC ERA Fund, you may subtract \$50 from your 1980 tax bill.

4. What is the deadline for passage of ERA? How many states must ratify?

The deadline for passage is June 30, 1982. 38 states must ratify the Amendment. To date, 35 states have ratified.

5. Is NWPC or its ERA Fund part of the National Organization for Women (NOW)?

No. NWPC is a separate organization with its own elected officers and members. There is no connection between the two groups, although we often work together on common goals.



NWPC/ERA FUND

National Women's Political Caucus
Equal Rights Amendment Fund

1411 K Street N.W., Suite 1110
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 347-4456

CHARTER OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS ERA FUND

1. The name of this organization shall be the "National Women's Political Caucus ERA Fund"; hereinafter referred to as the "Fund".

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2. The objective of the Fund shall be to raise money to support efforts to ratify the ERA to the US Constitution. Proceeds will be targeted in non-ratified states.

3. In support of its objective the Fund will solicit and receive political contributions, employ consultants and others to assist in ratification and fundraising efforts, make expenditures on behalf of selected states, legislative candidates in the non-ratified states, and make contributions to the campaigns of such candidates.

4. The Fund is expressly barred from making any contributions to or expenditures on behalf of any federal candidates, or any candidates for state or municipal office in any state which has ratified the ERA.

5. The Fund shall operate as an unincorporated, non-profit association, and shall be governed by its Board of Trustees.

6. The Board of Trustees shall consist of seven persons. Trustees shall be elected annually by the Board. The Trustees so elected shall serve for a one-year term, and until the election and qualification of their successors. In the event that a vacancy arises in the Board by reason of death, legal incapacity, or resignation, the remaining trustees shall expeditiously elect a new trustee to fill such vacancy.

7. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations not inconsistent with this Charter or applicable laws, as it may deem proper for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the Fund. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

8. Trustees shall not receive any compensation for serving as Trustees.

9. The Board may create such offices as it deems necessary or desirable for the conduct of the business of the Fund, and shall appoint persons to fill such offices for such periods as shall be established by the Board. Any such officer shall be subject to removal by the Board at any time with or without cause. Officers shall have such power and authority as may be delegated to them by the Board.

10. Except for paragraphs 2 and 4, this Charter may be amended at any time by a 2/3 vote of the Board, a quorum being present and voting. Paragraphs 2 and 4 are not subject to amendment.

Comm. from Jessica Mix, Canvass Director,
re: permission to conduct a door to door
canvass for the purpose of raising money
to support political campaigns in states
where the ERA was ratified.

11/25/80 NOTIFY THE
PETITIONER OF ACTION
TAKEN
petitioner In City Council,
notified
11/25/80 (dl) November 24, 1980

11/24/80
Referred to the
Police Dept FOR
ACTION-
copy sent to Chief Ravenport
11/25/80 (dl)