

# TAKE ACTION!

## UNRATIFIED TARGET STATES

### THE "TWO-STATE" STRATEGY

On March 21, 2017, Nevada became the 36th state to ratify the ERA! Only two additional states are needed to achieve constitutional gender equity. This means that the Three-State Strategy is now technically the Two-State Strategy. We are closer to ratifying the ERA than we have been in over 30 years!

### UNRATIFIED TARGET STATES

With this momentum, ERA activists in unratified states continue to clear a path for passage. Virginia, Illinois, North Carolina, and Florida present strategic opportunities in terms of their prior attempts at ratification, political representation, and state legislature party composition.

Below are updates on the status of the ERA in each target state.



## FLORIDA



### STATUS

The Florida ERA (SCR 194) was introduced in 2015, but unfortunately died in the Judiciary Committee.

### CHALLENGES

The Florida ERA has consistently been killed in the committee process and has not been presented for a floor vote in both the House and Senate simultaneously in over 15 years.



## VIRGINIA



### STATUS

Has not been introduced in the current legislative session. In 2015, the ERA passed through the State Senate but was blocked in the House of Representatives.

### CHALLENGES

The Virginia State House of Representatives is hostile toward the Equal Rights Amendment; this is due in part to a Republican Majority.



## ILLINOIS



### STATUS

The Illinois ERA (SJRC0004) moving through the legislative process in the State Senate and is awaiting introduction in the House of Representatives.

### CHALLENGES

Lawmakers in both the House of Representatives and Senate have approved the ERA, but never in the same year. The Senate endorsed it in 1972 and 2014, the House in 1975 and 2003.



## NORTH CAROLINA



### STATUS

Has been introduced in the House of Representatives (HB102) and in the Senate (Senate Bill 85).

### CHALLENGES

The General Assembly's rule on "crossover bills" between legislative sessions has slowed momentum. Despite having one-third of the House of Representatives listed as co-sponsors in 2015, ERA discussion was stifled, even at the committee level.

RATIFY THE  
EQUAL  
RIGHTS  
AMENDMENT



# TAKE ACTION!



## 1. CALL YOUR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES



Check out the National Action Campaign's Action Briefs on ERA Ratification Strategy. Call the Capitol Switchboard to contact your Representatives at **(202) 224-3121**.

*"Hello, my name is [name] and my zip code is [zip code]. I am calling to ask that [name of representative] co-sponsor and vote "YES" on all introduced Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) legislation, including: S.J. Res. 5, H.J. Res. 53, S.J. Res. 6, and H.J. Res. 33. Equality in pay, job opportunities, political structure, education, and health care will remain elusive without the guarantee of gender equity in the U.S. Constitution. 91% of individuals believe that women and men should have equal rights affirmed by the U.S. Constitution. The time for constitutional gender equity is NOW, I implore you to protect women's rights and support the ERA!"*



## 2. CALL YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES



**State Reps in target states need to hear from YOU to ratify the ERA!**

**Find your State Representatives in North Carolina:** <http://bit.ly/1IPF5K8>

**Find your State Representatives in Illinois:** <http://bit.ly/1FGXlkj>

**Find your State Representatives in Florida:** <http://bit.ly/1C22yzX>

**Find your State Representatives in Virginia:** <http://bit.ly/11cFP77>

*"Hello, my name is [name] and my zip code is [zip code]. I am calling to ask that you support all state-level Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) legislation. As we work to ratify the ERA--your vote can make a difference.*

*Equality in pay, job opportunities, political structure, education, and health care will remain elusive without the guarantee of gender equity in the U.S. Constitution. 91% of individuals believe that men and women should have equal rights affirmed by the U.S. Constitution. The time for constitutional gender equity is NOW, I implore you to protect women's rights and champion the ERA!"*



## 3. LOBBY FOR THE ERA



Meet with your Federal and State Representatives to express the importance of the ERA! For more information about to successfully lobby--check out **NOW's Constituent Engagement Guide [here!](#)**



## 4. WORK TO ELECT WOMEN



Women comprise 40% of the Nevada General Assembly. **It is likely that this gender composition played a role in ratifying the ERA.** Volunteer to help women run and WIN elections in your community! Or better yet, run for office yourself!

## 5. ENGAGE IN COMMUNITY COALITION BUILDING

When ratified, the ERA will support a wide range of issues that impact women. Reach out to community partners in the women's movement and other progressive organizations to build partnerships.



## 6. EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY



Talking with friends, and fellow activists about the ERA builds the movement! Check out the National Action Campaign's brief on the Intersectional Approach to the ERA.

## 7. STAY UP TO DATE ON UNRATIFIED TARGET STATES

**Virginia NOW:** <http://vanow.org/ratify>

**North Carolina NOW:** <https://northcarolinanow.wordpress.com/>

**North Carolina ERA (HB102 and SB 85):** <http://bit.ly/2lLa2sa>

**Illinois NOW:** <http://ilnow.org/>

**Illinois General Assembly, SJRCA004:** <http://bit.ly/2qzToe2>

**Florida NOW:** <http://flnow.weebly.com/>

