

Ask Your Legislators to Oppose the Federal Equal Rights Amendment

3/4/09

Since the beginning of the session, we've talked about attempts by lawmakers to ratify the federal Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. This amendment was proposed in the early 1970s, was ratified by 35 states, but has not been in the news very much since then. Now, a group of legislators wants to bring it back.

The Equal Rights Amendment is designed to do one thing: Make all U.S. state and federal laws gender-neutral. This means that laws would not be able to distinguish between men and women.

In other words, marriage laws defining marriage as something between "a man and a woman" would be stricken. In states that have passed equal rights amendments, abortion laws have been stricken because they discriminate against women. Single-sex organizations, like the Boy Scouts, fraternities, and sororities, would also be in danger.

Lawyers and judges throughout America agree that the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution would have far-reaching consequences.

Right now, House Joint Resolution 1014 and Senate Joint Resolution 12 both threaten to make Arkansas the next state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. There's a reason that no state has ratified the ERA since 1977: It's a bad, unnecessary piece of legislation.

Please call your senator and your representative. Ask each of them to vote AGAINST the Equal Rights Amendment.

Your senator can be reached at: (501) 682-2902

Your representative can be reached at: (501) 682-6211

If you do not know who your legislators are—or if you would like additional contact information for them—go to <http://www.ArkansasVotersGuide.com/>.

Please call today.

Sincerely,

Jerry Cox