



# How can I help pass the ERA?

Here are 10 simple things you can do to make a difference and help work towards attaining "equality of rights under the law" for ALL Minnesotans.

1. **Join us in our fight for equality!**

Go to [ERAmn.org](http://ERAmn.org) and sign up today!

2. **Visit, write or call your legislators\***

Find out who they are and where they stand on the issue on our Lobbying 101 page...and then tell them YOU want an Equal Rights Amendment and that you trust they will do the right thing and support this basic human right. (Calling and visiting in person are much more effective than just email or a petition.)

3. **Write Op Eds/Letters to the Editor\***

Share your passion with your local communities - write letters and submit to your local newspaper. We can help get you started.

4. **Show up for our events and meetings**

Go to [ERAMN.org/events](http://ERAMN.org/events) for updated events and meeting schedules.

5. **Spread the word**

Let your friends and relatives know that in fact, we do not have an amendment to protect people from gender discrimination; and now is the time to take this next step towards making a better, more equal Minnesota!

6. **Volunteer**

Sign up and let us know how you would like to help!

7. **Host a House Party and/or Film Screening**

Spread the word in your community by setting up an informational meeting at a library, community center, coffee house, etc. Contact us for a toolkit and help or guidance.

8. **Get your local county, city, organization, local business, or place of worship to pass a resolution of support.**

A resolution is a formal expression of support. See our webpage for details and templates.

9. **Follow us on social media or our blog**

Stay up-to-date on how things are going and how you can help — 'LIKE' our Facebook page and subscribe to our RSS feed or our blog to get the news as soon as we write it.

10. **Donate**

We do need funds for printing, buttons, organizing, social media outreach, etc. Please consider making a donation! All funds go through our fiscal agent Minnesota NOW.

*\*See Tips on back/next page.*

Go to [www.eramn.org/actnow](http://www.eramn.org/actnow) for sample letter, phoning and email templates.

## Tips on Contacting your Legislator

### In order of effective options:

- 1) In Person
  - 2) Letter and/or Postcard
  - 3) Phoning
  - 4) Email
- Introduce yourself and tell them where you live, so they know you are a constituent.
  - Visit them at the Capitol or in your community, it's best to set up an appointment, but drop-ins are a good way to connect with their staff and get your message to them.
  - Make sure you include an ASK to support the ERA. (For example: *Will you vote in favor of a constitutional amendment for gender equality to be on the ballot in 2020?*)
  - Tell them why you personally support equal rights. Personal stories are always more effective.
  - Thank them for their time and consideration.

## Tips on writing Letters to the Editor

- Always, always, always pay attention to length requirements by the newspaper. Generally speaking, short and sweet is preferred. Try for 250 words or less.
- Make it relevant. Your letter will be more likely to be printed and read if its related to something going on in the news or in your community.
- Include a call to action. What do you want people to do because of your letter? Find out more? Visit a website? Call their legislator? Pick one and make sure its included.
- See sample letter below.



## Sample Letter to the Editor:

To the Editor:

Nick Coleman's Sept. 19th article ("Women face challenges, but who cares?") was right on the mark, but missed one important solution. An equal rights amendment to our state constitution would be one giant step forward in making sure that these issues are addressed--both by the courts and in our culture.

Women still face discrimination in our courts, pay inequity and multitudes of cultural inequality. We need to work on changing our culture, but we also need our elected officials to make sure that gender equality is the law of the land. One of the best ways to see if candidates are going to work for women when they get into office is to ask them if they will support a Minnesota Constitutional Amendment for Equality. Ask the candidates if they, like 91% of Americans, believe that gender equality should be enshrined in our constitution.

We still need an equal rights amendment, and we can start with Minnesota. To find out more about why we especially need an equal rights amendment, visit [www.eramn.org](http://www.eramn.org). Somethings are important enough to put in writing.

Your name  
Your city

Go to [www.eramn.org/actnow](http://www.eramn.org/actnow) for sample letter, phoning and email templates.