

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 21, 1971

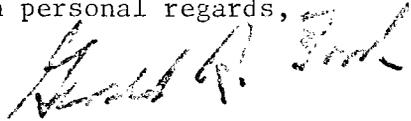
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Although floor consideration on H. J. Res. 208, the proposed constitutional amendment guaranteeing "equal rights for men and women," has been postponed for a few days, it will be before the House in the very near future.

I have repeatedly been asked for the views of your Administration on this question and I would be very appreciative of an authoritative statement from you before the debate begins.

Warm personal regards,



Gerald R. Ford, M. C.

GRF:rn

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Gerry:

You have asked my position with respect to the Equal Rights Amendment, soon to be considered by the House.

As you remember, as a Senator in 1951 I co-sponsored a Resolution proposing the Amendment; in 1968 I reaffirmed my support for it as a candidate for the Presidency.

Throughout twenty years I have not altered my belief that equal rights for women warrant a Constitutional guarantee - and I therefore support the enactment of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Sincerely,

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Pending Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Item veto

Change the dates of Congressional meetings

Provide for the emergency functioning of Congress

Compel testimony from criminal defendants (amending the 5th Amendment)

Declaring an unalienable right to a good environment

Protect references to God (on coins, pledges, etc.)

Abolish the income tax

Popular election of judges

Periodic reconfirmation of Judges

Setting up specific qualifications for judicial appointments

Change the qualification for members of Congress

Provide a 4-year term for House Members

Reduce the Senate term to 4 years

Authorize prayers in public buildings

National preferential Presidential primary

Add "So help me God" to the Presidential oath

Denying employment to subversives in public schools

Apportionment of State legislatures

To prevent "interference" with the States

Requiring 2/3 vote of the Supreme Court to invalidate State or Federal laws

Mandatory Supreme Court requirement age

Setting qualifications for Supreme Court nominees

Providing that the Chief Justice shall report to Congress annually

Require the consent of the House to Treaties and Executive Agreements

Require the consent of Congress to Executive Agreements

Standards for welfare payments

Proposed Amendments with Significant Support

Equal Rights

Busing

School Prayer

Limiting the tenure of federal judges

Voting representation for D. C.

Direct election of the President

Modifying the Electoral College