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ERA REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

ERA was reintroduced in Congress on July 14th by Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-MA), Reps. Pat Schroeder (D-CO), Don Edwards (D-CA), Margaret Heckler (R-MA) and Peter Rodino (D-NJ). On that day, Tsongas, Schroeder, Heckler, Edwards and Rodino and the cosponsors from both Hses., held a press conference on the Capitol steps. AAUW and other organizations were a part of the July 14th press conference to announce the reintroduction of ERA. As of this writing, there are 51 Sen. and 204 Hse. cosponsors of the ERA.

The language of the Amendment is the same as the ERA passed by Congress in 1972. It reads as follows:

- 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: The amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

There will not be time in the remaining months of the 97th Congress to vote on the ERA bill. Therefore, a MC's stand on ERA will be determined by his/her sponsorship of the ERA bill. Further, in the November elections ERA PACs and other organizations' PACs are expected to support incumbent Hse. and Sen. members on the basis of their sponsorship of the bill reintroducing ERA.

The reintroduction of the Amendment is essential in order to keep the issue visible for the future and also to remind the Right that ERA will not go away.

***ACTION:** If your Rep. or Sen. has signed on as a cosponsor of the ERA bill, thank him/her for supporting reintroduction. If your Sen. or Rep. is not listed as a cosponsor, urge him/her to do so. Tell your Sen. or Rep. that only a federal Constitutional Amendment can provide uniform and equal treatment for women in all 50 states. Remind him/her that women's equality is not provided for in the US Constitution. In fact, the Supreme Court has never declared women a suspect classification under the 14th Amendment, i.e. even though women have been discriminated against, they are not entitled to special scrutiny as are classifications based on race, religion and national origin.*

COSPONSORS OF ERA				
as of July 14, 1982				
SENATE				
Andrews, Mark	Dixon, Alan	Jackson, Henry	Pell, Claiborne	Boren, David
Baucus, Max	Dodd, Christopher	Kassebaum, Nancy	Percy, Charles	Bumpers, Dale
Biden, Joseph, Jr.	Durenberger, David	Kennedy, Edward	Proxmire, Williams	Byrd, Robert
Boschwitz, Rudy	Eagleton, Thomas	Leahy, Patrick	Randolph, Jennings	Hayakawa, S.I.
Bradley, Bill	Glenn, John	Levin, Carl	Riegle, Donald	Murkowski, Frank
Burdick, Quentin	Gorton, Slade	Mathias, Charles, Jr	Sarbanes, Paul	
Chafee, John	Hart, Gary	Matsunaga, Spark	Schmitt, Harrison	
Cohen, William	Hatfield, Mark	Melcher, John	Specter, Arlen	
Cranston, Alan	Heinz, John	Metzenbaum, Howard	Stafford, Robert	
Danforth, John	Hollings, Ernest	Mitchell, Geroge	Stevens, Ted	
DeConcini, Dennis	Inouye, Daniel	Moynihan, Patrick D.	Tsongas, Paul	
		Packwood, Bob	Weicker, Lowell	

(See List of Hse. Sponsors on p.2)

## COSPONSORS OF ERA as of July 1, 1982

HOUSE			
Addabbo, Joseph	Downey, Tom	Howard, James	Ratchford, William
Akaka, Daniel, K.	Dunn, Jim	Hoyer, Steny	Reuss, Henry
Anderson, Glenn	Dwyer, Bernard	Jacobs, Andrew	Richmond, Frederick
Aspin, Les	Dymally, Mervyn	Kastenmeier, Robert	Rinaldo, Matthew
AuCoin, Les	Edgar, Bob	Kennelly, Barbara	Rodino, Peter
Barnes, Michael	Edwards, Don	Kildee, Dale	Roe, Robert
Bedell, Berkley	Emery, David	Kogovsek, Ray	Rosenthal, Ben
Beilenson, Anthony	Ertel, Allen	Lafalce, John	Roukema, Marge
Benjamin, Adma Jr.	Evans, Cooper	Lantos, Tom	Roybal, Edward
Biaggi, Mario	Erdahl, Arlen	Leach, Jim	Russo, Marty
Bingham, Jonathan	Fary, John	Lehman, Bill	Sabo, Martin
Blanchard, Jim	Fauntroy, Walter	Long, Clarence	Scheuer, James
Bolling, Richard	Fazio, Vic	Long, Gillis	Schneider, Claudine
Bonker, Don	Fenwick, Millicent	Lowry, Mike	Schroeder, Patricia
Bonior, David	Ferraro, Geraldine	Lundine, Stan	Schumer, Charles
Broadhead, Bill	Fish, Hamilton	McCloskey, Paul	Seiberling, John
Brooks, Jack	Fithian, Floyd	McHugh, Matthew	Shamansky, Bob
Brown, George	Florio, Jim	McKinney, Stewart	Shannon, Jim
Brown, Hank	Foglietta, Tom	Matsui, Robert	Sharp, Phillip
Burton, John	Foley, Thomas	Mattox, Jim	Simon, Paul
Burton, Phillip	Ford, Harold	Mavroules, Nicholas	Smith, Neal
Chisholm, Shirley	Forsythe, Edwin	Mikulski, Barbara	Snowe, Olympia
Clay, William	Fowler, Myche	Miller, George	Solarz, Stephen
Clinger, William	Frank, Barney	Mineta, Norman	Stark, Pete
Coelho, Tony	Frenzel, Bill	Mitchell, Parren	Stokes, Louis
Collins, Cardis	Frost, Martin	Moakley, Joe	Swift, Al
Conte, Silvio	Garcia, Robert	Moffett, Toby	Traxler, Bob
Conyers, John	Gejdenson, Sam	Nelligan, James	Udall, Morris
Corrada, Baltasar	Gephardt, Richard	Nowak, Henry	Vento, Bruce
Coyne, William	Gilman, Ben	Oakar, Mary Rose	Walgren, Doug
Coyne, Jim	Ginn, Bo	Oberstar, James	Washington, Harold
Crockett, George	Glickman, Dan	Ottinger, Richard	Waxman, Henry
D'Admours, Norm	Gray, William	Panetta, Leon	Weaver, Jim
Daschle, Thomas	Green, Bill	Patterson, Jerry	Weber, Ed
DeNardis, Lawrence	Guarini, Frank	Pepper, Claude	Weiss, Ted
Deckard, Joel	Hamilton, Lee	Peyser, Peter	Williams, Pat
Dellums, Ron	Harkin, Tom	Pickle, J.J.	Wirth, Tim
Dicks, Norman	Hawkins, Augustus	Pritchard, Joel	Wolpe, Howard
Dixon, Julian	Heckler, Margaret	Railsback, Tom	Won Pat, Antonio
Dorgan, Byron	Hollenback, Harold	Rangel, Charles	Wyden, Ron
			Yates, Sidney

The following Reps. signed on as co-sponsors after July 1st.

Albosta, Donald J.	Derrick, Butler	Heftel, Cecil	Rahall, Nick Joe
Alexander, Bill	Donnelly, Brian	Hertel, Dennis	Regula, Ralph
Andrews, Ike	Eckart, Dennis	Leland, Mickey	Rose, Charles
Boggs, Lindy	Fascell, Dante	Markey, Edward	Savage, Gus
Boland, Edward	Fiedler, Bobbi	Martin, Lynn	Stratton, Samuel
Brown, Clarence	Ford, William	Mazzoli, Romano	Studds, Gerry
Clausen, Don	Gaydos, Joseph	Mollohan, Robert	Synar, Mike
Connable, Barber	Gonzales, Henry	Obey, David	Tauke, Thomas
Coughlin, Lawrence	Gradison, Willis Jr.	Pease, Donald	Wright, Jim
Courter, James	Gregg, Judd	Purcell, Carl	Yatron, Gus

### CONGRESS SETS THE STAGE FOR MORE BUDGET CUTS IN THE FY'83 FIRST BUDGET RESOLUTION

Each fiscal year Congress goes through the procedures, laid out by the federal budget process, of adopting First and Second Budget Resolutions. The First Budget Resolution, which is supposed to be adopted by May 15, sets target spending ceilings and revenue floors; the Second Budget Resolution, adopted by September 15, sets binding ceilings and floors. In recent years a new procedure known as "reconciliation" has become very important in this process. Reconciliation requires that authorizing committees trim their spending plans to stay within the figures set by the Budget Resolution. If they do not, Congress can refuse to act on the higher appropriation request or the President can refuse to sign it.

Last year the Reagan administration was successful in achieving their substantial budget cutting victory because the major cuts were contained in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981. On this reconciliation bill there was only one vote in the Hse. and Sen. MCs were not allowed up or down votes on individual programs such as education, housing, food stamps, etc; moreover they were informed of the contents of the bill only hours before they had to vote on it. This singular vote has made it possible for MCs to escape responsibility for extensive budget cuts.

This year, following Conference Committee approval of a First Budget Resolution that requires \$6.57 B in new spending cuts, Hse. Speaker O'Neill (D-MA) said that he wants Hse. members to have the opportunity to vote up or down on individual program cuts. Whether or not this will be possible is yet to be resolved, but Hse. members need to know that their constituents are aware of the implications of the 1 vote reconciliation bill and that voters want their legislators to take responsibility for their budget decisions by voting on individual programs in the reconciliation process.