

# Eagle Forum

*"the alternative to women's lib"*

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President, PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

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## PROOF OF ABORTION LINK WITH ERA

A new bill about to be passed by Congress proves that, if ERA is ever ratified, it will put abortion into the Constitution. As soon as this bill becomes law, which will be within a few weeks, no one can any longer deny the connection between ERA and abortion.

The key provision of the new law is this: It proclaims that it is sex discrimination to treat a woman differently because of pregnancy, childbirth, or "related medical conditions." Obviously, abortion is a medical condition related to pregnancy and/or childbirth. ERA prohibits discrimination on account of sex.

The purpose of the law is to require employers to pay "sick leave" wages to workers who take time off to have babies, if the company has a disability plan. The law will overturn the U.S. Supreme Court case in *General Electric v. Gilbert*.

In lobbying this bill thru Congress, the abortionists have taken a small step back in order to take two long steps forward. The bill will allow employers to refuse to pay the actual costs of an abortion (but they must pay for abortion complications). The abortionists know that this exception would become immediately unconstitutional if ERA were ratified because the Constitution is the "supreme law of the land," and there are NO exceptions in ERA. ERA would prohibit ALL discrimination on account of sex and wipe out the exceptions to this rule that exist today in the employment law (for bona fide occupational classifications) and in the education law (for single-sex schools, fraternities, sororities, Mother-Daughter school events, contact sports, etc.).

In plain language, the new law establishes the federal principle that it is "sex discrimination" to deny a woman payment for any condition related to pregnancy. Without ERA, we can have a law like this one that says "except we won't pay for abortions." If ERA goes into the Constitution, no exceptions would be constitutionally permissible.

## ERA EXTENSION: "THE UNFAIRNESS DOCTRINE"

Bella Abzug's ERA Extension Bill can best be labeled "the UNfairness doctrine" because it is so grievously unfair in purpose and procedure. It denies equal rights to those opposed to ERA, and gives special privileges to the women's lib amendment that no other constitutional amendment has ever had.

The average time for ratification of a constitutional amendment is 1 year, 4 months. The longest time ever taken by any constitutional amendment is 3 years, 11 months. Every amendment for the last 60 years has had the 7-year deadline. But Bella and her Bunch want to change the rules and give their amendment 10 years, 3 months, 8 days -- a peculiar time period maliciously designed to include an extra session of the Illinois Legislature (which always adjourns on June 30).

Bella Abzug's ERA Extension Bill is grievously unfair because it gives 10 years to states to change their positions from no to yes, but denies them the right to change from yes to no. DEMAND THAT YOUR SENATORS & CONGRESSMEN INCLUDE A PROVISION ALLOWING STATES TO CHANGE BOTH WAYS.

The ERA proponents are even crooked in their procedure. They are planning to railroad the Extension through Congress with a simple majority rather than the 2/3 majority that Article V requires for amendments to the U.S. Constitution. It is a long-established precedent that, after one House has passed a constitutional amendment by a 2/3 vote, the other House cannot change the conditions of the amendment by less than a 2/3 vote. Also, it is ridiculous to try to amend by only a majority vote a resolution that required a 2/3 vote to pass in the first place. DEMAND THAT YOUR SENATORS & CONGRESSMEN ENFORCE THE 2/3 RULE ON THE ERA EXTENSION BILL.

## ERA DEFEATED ON "THE ADVOCATES" POLL

"The Advocates," a nationally televised program on PBS (public broadcasting), featured a debate on ERA in July. Appearing against ERA were Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr., Phyllis Schlafly, and Professor Jules Gerard. The program asked viewers to send postcards with their votes. The result, announced on the next program, was pro-ERA 5,464, con-ERA 8,877. The moderator said that about half the votes on each side looked "organized." That still leaves Stop ERA with an overwhelming victory.

## GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE STUDY ON ERA

The Georgia House Judiciary Committee has just completed a study of Georgia laws that give a preference to one sex and so would become unconstitutional if ERA were ratified. There are 130 such laws: 97 give special benefits to women, 11 give special benefits to men, and the rest are arguable. Thus, if ERA is ratified, women will lose 10-to-1.

## SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

*(now considering ERA Extension)*

James O. Eastland, Mississippi  
Edward M. Kennedy, Massachusetts  
Birch Bayh, Indiana  
Robert C. Byrd, West Virginia  
James Abourezk, south Dakota  
Maryon P. Allen, Alabama  
Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Delaware  
John C. Culver, Iowa  
Howard M. Metzenbaum, Ohio  
Dennis DeConcini, Arizona  
Paul Hatfield, Montana  
*Strom Thurmond, South Carolina*  
*Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., Maryland*  
*William L. Scott, Virginia*  
*Paul Laxalt, Nevada*  
*Orrin G. Hatch, Utah*  
*Malcolm Wallop, Wyoming*  
Democrats in Roman: *Republicans in Italics.*

Address all Senators as follows:

Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_:

## RESOLUTIONS AGAINST ERA EXTENSION

Resolutions against ERA Extension were passed in June by the Illinois House of Representatives and in July by the Illinois Republican Party Convention.

## LIB MARCH ON WASHINGTON JULY 9

Government employees, radicals and lesbians swelled the crowd that marched on Washington on July 9 -- a crowd estimated by U.S. News & World Report at 40,000 (about half the crowd that comes to Washington every January 22 in the bitter cold to March for Life). That doesn't mean that ALL were government employees, radicals and lesbians, but those 3 groups were prominent in the leadership. Midge Costanza is a government employee (and Carter has assigned her to work fulltime for ERA Extension). Bella Abzug and Gloria Steinem are good examples of radicals. Gloria said in her speech at the rally that, if ERA Extension is not passed, "we will become the revolutionaries you think we are" and engage in "civil disobedience." The Washington Post the next day confirmed the presence of lesbians.

Five pages of instructions for the rally were mailed out from Room C5321 of the Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20210. That is the office of Bella Abzug and the new National Advisory Committee for Women (the reincarnated Commission on International Women's Year). The instructions were pretty funny in the subtle way they told the libs to carry only ERA signs (instead of lesbian and other radical signs), and to wear white (instead of their usual attire).

On June 20, President Carter appointed 40 persons to the National Advisory Committee for Women. Like IWY, it includes the head of every radical lib & lesbian group, but no Stop ERA leader. Bella Abzug is the chairperson and Judy Carter the honorary chairperson. Here is the list:

Bella Abzug, Owanah Anderson, Unita Blackwell, Erma Bombeck, Cecilia Burciaga, Marjorie Bell Chambers, Sey Chassler, Mary Crisp, Miriam I. Cruz, Laura de Herrera, Piilani C. Desha, Donna E. de Varona, Gretta Dewald, Judith Heumann, Koryne Horbal, Mildred M. Jeffrey, Jeffalyn Johnson, Lane Kirkland, Odessa Komer, Florine Koole, Elizabeth Koontz, Esther Landa, Brownie Ledbetter, Mary Helen Madden, Billie Nave Masters, Joyce Miller, Nancy Newman, Jean O'Leary (director of the Gay Task Force), Brenda Parker, Claire Randall, Carolyn Reed, Ann Richards, Richard Rossie, Jill Ruckelshaus, Eleanor Smeal, Tin Myaing Thein, Marlo Thomas, Carmen Delgado Votaw, Maxine Waters, and Addie Wyatt.

THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE PROCLAIMED AUGUST 15 AS A DAY OF PRAYER. PLEASE JOIN US.