

# Eagle Forum

*"the alternative to women's lib"*

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July 1978

President, PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

## ILLINOIS DEFEATS ERA FOR THE SEVENTH STRAIGHT YEAR

The Illinois House defeated ERA again on Thursday evening, June 22. This was the most amazing political victory of the decade. Lined up on one side were the Carter Administration, Illinois Governor James Thompson, Chicago Mayor Bilandic, and the Chicago newspapers. On the other side were the people. For once, the people won out over the federal and state officials and the media.

This is the seventh year that the Illinois Legislature has debated and voted on ERA, and the 13th time a vote has been taken in one House or the other. It is a perversion of the democratic process to make a legislature vote again and again on the same issue. The plain purpose of the pro-ERAs is to wear people out by voting again and again, in the hope that legislators will finally give up and pass it.

It was a colossal piece of pro-ERA rules chicanery that ERA was even brought up for a vote on June 22. ERA had already been twice defeated by this legislature. June 7 was the second time ERA was defeated by this very legislature, and the ERA bill was dead. So what did the libs do? They simply introduced another bill with identical wording, rammed through a vote to bypass committee, and demanded and got a third vote in this legislature. This tactic is a violation of all rules of orderly legislative procedure.

The June 7 rejection of ERA was a rebuff to President Carter, who had come personally to the Illinois Legislature the week before and asked legislators to vote for ERA even though they suffered a backlash from their constituents! This arrogant statement was tantamount to admitting that the people are against ERA. After the Illinois House defeated ERA on June 7, Vice President Mondale came to Chicago to voice the Administration's displeasure and to demand that ERA be passed. The Carter Administration threatened to make Chicago Mayor Bilandic's life miserable by withholding federal funds unless the Mayor

forced Chicago-area legislators to vote yes on ERA.

The voting on June 22 went on for several hours as each Representative explained his vote. It was a traumatic experience for those present. The Speaker held the vote open while the proponents went up and down the aisles pleading for additional votes. Paid ERA lobbyists worked hard. Illinois Governor Thompson made personal, pleading phone calls direct to the desks of legislators asking them to vote for ERA, and the Governor's men were lobbying on the House floor.

The ERAs are in a state of shock at their stunning defeat. They don't understand why they lost. They simply won't face up to the fact that Illinois citizens do NOT want ERA. The National Organization for Women has been threatening on TV and radio to defeat all legislators who voted NO on ERA. Pro-ERA money is pouring into Illinois by the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The League of Women Voters alone has announced that it has allocated \$140,000 to Illinois. Carol Burnett has called legislators and offered to come in for fund-raisers. Rosalynn Carter said she is keeping a list of state legislators who voted against ERA so they can be replaced (a White House enemies list).

The ERAs promise to bring up ERA in both the House and the Senate in the November session after the election. Whether ERA passes or fails in Illinois will depend on who is elected in November. ERA proponents have made Illinois their key target and, unfortunately, money is a vital factor in political races. That's what the ERAs have lots of -- plus dozens of federal and state payrollers who work for ERA at the taxpayers' expense.

We salute the courageous Illinois legislators who had the courage to stand up to the political and financial pressures thrown at them by the Carter-Mondale Administration and Gov. Thompson, the hammering of the press, and the harassment by the NOW radicals.

## SOUTHERN BAPTISTS OPPOSE EXTENSION

The 22,800 delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta passed a strong resolution against Extension of ERA and against the ERA-NOW Boycott.

## WOMEN'S LIB STRIKES AT VETERANS

As everyone who has studied the booklet of the National Organization for Women called REVOLUTION: TOMORROW IS NOW knows, the women's libbers hate veterans and want to take away their veterans' preference. "NOW" women want to take away any job preference given to veterans so that the "NOW" women can have the jobs themselves.

Most Americans believe that, when a man gives up a couple of years of his life to serve our country and takes the risk of being killed, he deserves a little special help in finding a job when he returns.

Chris Noel is a beautiful star of movies, TV and radio who did hundreds of performances for our armed forces during the Vietnam War. Recently the Department of Labor asked her to donate the use of her picture for a "Bet on a Vet" campaign to apprise veterans of their job rights through posters, magazine ads, and TV spots. After all the posters were printed and ads finished, the women's lib gestapo moved in and harassed the man in charge of veterans' affairs in the Department of Labor until he cancelled the entire program, costing more than \$150,000 of the taxpayers' money. Why? The women's lib gestapo said the ad campaign was "sexist." Chris Noel is pretty, but the pictures were head shots only; they were not even swimming suit pictures! She was chosen because her name was known to Vietnam vets. The plain fact is that the women's lib gestapo considers any veterans' benefit "sexist" because 95% of vets are men.

This is more proof that the women's libbers would use ERA to eliminate all veterans' preference as "sex discriminatory."

## CAN YOU AFFORD THIS HOUSE?

*This is the title of an excellent new paperback authored by 26 U.S. Congressmen and covering issues of national importance including national defense, foreign affairs, tax reform, social reform, and gun control. Among the names of well-known Congressmen who contributed chapters to this book are Philip Crane, Robert Dorman, Jack Kemp, Steve Symms, and George Hansen. David Treen is the editor. Available at \$2.95 from RSC Campaign Fund, P.O. Box 448, Vienna, VA 22180.*

## "POSITIVE WOMAN" NOW IN PAPERBACK

Phyllis Schlafly's book THE POWER OF THE POSITIVE WOMAN is just out in paperback. Order from Pere Marquette Press, Box 618, Alton, IL 62002. Single copy \$1.95, three copies for \$5. Hardbound book still available for \$8.95. Please check to see if the hardbound book is in your local libraries and the paperback is in your local bookstores and newsstands. The attempted censorship by some librarians to keep this book out of the libraries is shocking. With persistence, however, you can usually shame librarians into ordering it for the sake of equal rights. Men should buy POSITIVE WOMAN as a present for their wives. It's a good investment in a happy marriage.

## ERAERS WON'T RISK VOTE OF PEOPLE

It sure is funny the way the ERAers keep saying that the polls show that the people want ERA -- but never want to risk putting ERA on the ballot. They know that, when a state ERA was on the ballot in New York and New Jersey in Nov. 1975, it was overwhelmingly defeated. Likewise in Wis. in 1973.

The Nevada Legislature voted to put the federal ERA on the ballot in November this year. Would you believe -- the ERAers have filed suit against the Nevada Secretary of State to prevent him from obeying the law! The case will be decided in August.

After ERA was defeated in Virginia earlier this year, Stop ERA Delegate Bob Thoburn asked every legislator who voted for ERA to co-sponsor a bill to put ERA on the ballot in Virginia. Every pro-ERA legislator said no. Also, in Illinois, the ERAers defeated a bill to have an ERA referendum.

## MORMON TRIBUTE TO WOMEN

Mormon women came from all over the country to Nauvoo, Illinois the week of June 26 to participate in the dedication of the new Mormon Relief Society Monument to Women. This consists of 13 bronze statues depicting the stages of a woman's life and her potential in serving her family and the world. I was honored to be invited to this once-in-a-lifetime occasion, where our Utah Stop ERA chairman, Representative Georgia Peterson, had been assigned to be my hostess. It was a great disappointment that circumstances made it impossible for me to attend. I salute the wonderful Mormon ladies and look forward to hearing from those who participated in that very special program.