

Attention: News and Future Editors, Political Reporters
Use thru Monday, August 2, 2021

News Advisory

Equal Rights Amendment Supporters to deliver 15,000 letters/postcards to Senator Sinema

Supporters say to AZ Senator: *We Need Your Voice and Vote - There is No Time Limit on Equality*

On Monday, August 2, at 11 am MST, a delegation of ERA supporters will deliver 15,000 letters, postcards and printed emails to the Phoenix Office of Senator Kyrsten Sinema at 3333 East Camelback Road, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ. A press conference by The Feminist Majority Foundation and Women's March Foundation will be held just before the boxes of letters are delivered.

A press conference will include spokespeople:

- **Dolores Huerta**, Board Member of the Feminist Majority
- **Emiliana Guereca**, Executive Director of the Women's March Foundation
- **Julie Gunnigle**, the Democratic nominee for Maricopa County attorney in 2020
- **Dianne Post**, attorney and Chair of the ERA Task Force AZ

The delegation, many of whom are long-time supporters of Senator Sinema, have asked for an in-person meeting with the Senator to discuss what she will do to help pass Senate Resolution 1 that would eliminate the arbitrary timeline for ERA ratification.

This bi-partisan resolution, now pending in the Senate, will clear the way for adding the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution now that the required 38 states have ratified. But a Mitch McConnell-led filibuster in the Senate could derail efforts to secure a vote, or even a debate, on the Senate floor. ERA supporters are urging Senator Sinema to support ending the filibuster so the Senate can debate and hold a vote to pass the Resolution removing the time limit on the Equal Rights Amendment.

In March, under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the U.S. House passed a resolution to remove the time limit blocking the ERA from being added to the Constitution and it is now up to a majority of the Senate to take action.

The ERA is part of a long list of other legislative proposals being held up in the Senate due to the outdated and racist filibuster rule including the voting rights legislation For the People Act, passing comprehensive immigration reform and a path to citizenship for Dreamers, raising the minimum wage, ensuring paycheck fairness, adopting the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, and increasing access to reproductive rights and justice.

“Senator Kyrsten Sinema was once a clear progressive voice for equal rights, but now, she is one of the few Senators who hang in the balance of making or breaking an end to the filibuster to clear the way for Constitutional rights for women and voting rights for all Americans. The Senator needs to reexamine her position and reflect the majority of people across Arizona and the country who support the ERA and voting rights,” says **Dolores Huerta**, Feminist Majority board member and president Dolores Huerta Foundation.

“The filibuster has been used to allow "conservatives" to deny equal rights to women and minorities for decades. Those minorities are the SAME people who elected Senator Kyrsten Sinema and are now imploring she support reforming the filibuster so the Equal Rights Amendment can be added to the Constitution,” says **Emiliana Guereca**, Executive Director, Women’s March Foundation

-30-

Dolores Huerta is a founding Board Member of the Feminist Majority, and an American labor leader and civil rights activist who, with Cesar Chavez, co-founded the United Farm Workers. In 2003, Huerta founded and is president of the Dolores Huerta Foundation, to inspire and organize communities to build volunteer organizations empowered to pursue social justice. In 2012, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by President Obama.

Emiliana Guereca is co-founder of Women’s March Los Angeles, the Executive Director of Women’s March LA Foundation, community organizer, activist, business owner, author and mother with a passion for giving back to the community. She devotes much of her time to advocacy programs for women’s rights, Latino education, and gender equality.

Julie Gunnigle is an attorney specializing in women’s rights and reproductive health. She is a former Professor of Law and former Assistant State’s Attorney in Cook County, IL. In 2020, she was the Democratic nominee for Maricopa County attorney. In 2013, she was appointed to the Midwifery Scope of Practice Advisory Committee that rewrote the Arizona rules for midwives.

Dianne Post is chair of the ERA Task Force AZ. An international human rights attorney, she has worked in over 14 countries to design and implement fundamental legal, policy and programmatic reforms on issues related to gender equality. For 18 years she has represented battered women and children in Arizona.

Spokespeople are available for phone and zoom interviews this week and throughout the Congressional session.

Contact: For the Feminist Majority, contact: Kathy Spillar, 213-716-1967 or kathyspillar@feministmajority.org