

# ERA Congressional History & Timeline

*1923 to 2026: More than a Century of Struggle*

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**2026:** By February, 218 U.S. House Members sign the ERA Joint Resolution ([H.J. Res. 80](#)) as cosponsors (217 Democrats, 1 Republican).

**2025:** The same joint resolutions are again introduced in Congress to establish ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by 3/4th of the states notwithstanding any arbitrary time limit.

**2024:** By November, House discharge petition reaches 114 but fails to meet the needed 118 signatures to trigger a floor vote in the House.

**2023:** Identical joint resolutions are introduced in both houses of Congress to establish ratification of the ERA notwithstanding any arbitrary time limit.

**In April,** a majority of the Senate votes for the resolution, but it does not reach the 60-vote majority to override a filibuster. Representative Ayanna Pressley files a discharge petition for her H.J. Res. 25 Equal Rights Amendment resolution.

**2021:** Two months into the new Congress, the House of Representatives passes an ERA resolution, removing the arbitrary time limit by a vote of 222-204. A different resolution in the Senate is cosponsored by a majority but never makes it to the floor for a vote.

**1982:** The ERA falls three states short of the needed three-fourths states for ratification under the disputed time limit.

**1979:** The arbitrary time limit is extended by Congress to June 1982.

**1972:** The Senate passes the ERA with a 2/3rd vote and sends it to the states for ratification with an arbitrary time limit of 1979; the time limit is not in the text of the ERA and not voted on by the states during the ratification process.

**1971:** The ERA is again introduced in the 92nd Congress and passes in the House with the required 2/3rd vote.

**1970:** The ERA has languished for 50 years when Congresswomen Martha Griffiths (D-MI) and Shirley Chisholm (D-NY), with Republican Minority Leader Gerald Ford, organize a discharge petition that requires moving the ERA from the Judiciary Committee to the floor of the House for a vote. As the Republican House Minority Leader, Ford is instrumental in lining final signatures for a discharge petition. The ERA passes in the House that year but fails to pass in the Senate.

**1949-1970:** Emanuel Celler, a Democrat from New York and Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, refuses to consider the ERA.

**1923-1971:** The ERA is introduced in every Congress until it is passed in 1972 and sent to the states for ratification. Despite bipartisan support, it consistently stagnates in congressional committees.

**1923:** The ERA is first introduced in Congress by House Republican Daniel Anthony, the nephew of Susan B. Anthony, and Republican Senator Charles Curtis, both from Kansas.