



**USE THRU Thursday, May 21, 2026**

## **Historic 1914 Suffrage Car Drives into Michigan for 2026 Driving the Vote for Equality Tour Connecting Voting Rights to the Equal Rights Amendment**

Across Michigan Organizers Activate Supporters to Push for Congressional Action

A historic 1914 Saxon automobile known as the “Golden Flyer II” will arrive in Lansing and Detroit as part of the national 2026 Driving the Vote for Equality Tour, a 10,700 miles cross-country journey across 25 states to secure voting rights for all and push for recognition of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The tour draws inspiration from the remarkable 1916 cross-country journey of suffragists Alice Burke and Nell Richardson, who traveled the nation by automobile advocating for women’s right to vote at a time when the federal amendment was stalled, as the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is stalled today. They stopped in Michigan on September 15, 1916, as reported in the *Detroit Free Press*.

The Michigan stops will feature public appearances, media availability, civic engagement events, and visual opportunities with the restored antique roadster against the State Capitol, the Detroit History Museum and other colorful backdrops.

Organizers will connect the campaign of the original 1916 journey in Michigan to the fight today to keep full voting rights for all and recognize the ERA. They are working with community members on [Sign4ERA.org](https://www.sign4era.org), a national petition drive hoping to have 1 million signatures by Election Day.

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 – LANSING**

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – State Capitol Building, West Side – Welcome with Michigan ERA Tour Kickoff organized by ERA NOW, Michigan Zonta Clubs and other ERA supporting organizations with remarks by the Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Congressional ERA Champion while in Congress, 1993-2023; state legislative leaders including Senator Sarah Anthony and Representative Julie Brixie; and Jeryl Schriever, author, *Driving the Vote for Women* and co-owner of the Saxon.

The 1916 Saxon will be parked in front of the offices for people to see the car, take selfies and sign the ERA petition. Media interview availabilities from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

6:00 p.m. – Red Cedar Spirits – 2000 Merritt Road – East Lansing – Driving the Vote for Equality for the 2026 Elections – ERA NOW and supporting groups.

## **THURSDAY, MAY 21 – LANSING/ SOUTH LYON/DETROIT**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. – Lansing City Hall – Mayors for ERA with a special award to Lansing Mayor Andy Schor for supporting the U.S. Conference of Mayors ERA Resolutions presented by ERA NOW and other ERA supporting organizations.

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. – South Lyon – Historic Village – 300 Dorothy Street – South Lyon with special award to Mayor Steve Kennedy with others local mayors invited.

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Detroit Historical Museum – 5401 Woodward Avenue with a program at 4:00 p.m. featuring ERA NOW and former Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Congressional ERA Champion 1993-2023; Jeryl Schiever, author [\*Driving the Vote for Women: An American Journey for Suffrage\*](#) chronicles the 1916 suffrage drive through the eyes of the suffragists and media articles from that era.

5:30 p.m. – The Congregation – 9321 Rosa Parks Blvd – Meet and Greet with a 6:00 p.m. program emphasizing the Congressional strategies for passing an ERA Joint Resolution.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 1916, suffragists Alice Burke and Nell Richardson became the first women to drive across the country traveling more than 10,500 miles to advocate for women's voting rights at a time when the federal amendment was stalled.

Recognition of the federal Equal Rights Amendment is at a standstill today. After more than a century of advocacy and action, women still do not have full constitutional equality under the law.

The Driving the Vote for Equality Tour is retracing that spirit of activism—using history to inspire action today. The Tour started on March 1 in New York City and has stopped in 18 states motivating ERA supporters to re-double their efforts. See stories about each stop at [www.DrivingTheVote.org](http://www.DrivingTheVote.org).

Thirty-eight states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, fulfilling every constitutional requirement. ERA NOW and other supporters are pushing Congress for a Joint Resolution to affirm and recognize the ERA as the 28th Amendment, thus eliminating any uncertainties about an arbitrary time limit.

The Driving the Vote for Equality Tour aims to collect one million petition signatures by Election Day 2026 and build the Congressional majority needed to finish the work the suffragists began over a century ago.

For details about the 1916 Suffrage Tour and connections to the Equal Rights Amendment, link to this [4-page piece in Ms. magazine](#). The Tour was launched in New

York City at the iconic New York Historical museum on March 1 as described by this [New York Times article](#).

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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