



Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

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Testimony Supporting House Joint Resolution 1
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The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a statewide legal services provider for survivors of sexual assault. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to report favorably on House Joint Resolution 1.

House Bill Joint Resolution 1 – Equal Rights Amendment

This joint resolution expresses the sense of the Maryland Legislature that the federal article of amendment commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" has met all Article V requirements for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States and is valid as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and urges the President and Congress of the United States to affirm the validity of the Equal Rights Amendment and direct the Archivist of the United States to certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay.

The federal Equal Rights Amendment is an amendment to the United States Constitution that prohibits discrimination based on sex. The Equal Right Amendment not only restores protections for women, but strengthens them.

**The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the
Rules and Executive Nominations Committee to
report favorably on House Joint Resolution 1**