

**Testimony in Support for SJ 0001
Affirming the Federal Equal Rights Amendment
Judicial Proceedings Committee
February 21, 2024**

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Kay Schuster and Ellen Sizemore, Co-Presidents
Hadassah Greater Baltimore

On behalf of the Greater Baltimore Region of Hadassah, representing over 4,100 Marylanders, we are writing to urge you to **vote FOR Senate Joint Resolution 1 (SJ0001) Affirming the Federal Equal Rights Amendment.**

This resolution urges the Administration of President Joseph Biden to publish the Federal Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and for the U.S. Congress to affirm, by joint resolution, the ERA as the 28th Amendment.

Hadassah vigorously supports all efforts to eliminate discrimination and to promote women's economic equality and security. We believe that without the ERA in the U.S. Constitution, federal laws could be enacted that jeopardize or eliminate rights that are currently guaranteed to us by Maryland's Equal Rights Amendment, including equal pay, contraception, abortion care, gender-affirming care, same-sex marriage, among others.

Maryland was one of the first states to ratify the ERA in 1972. Please confirm the will of the people.

We strongly urge you to support Senate Joint Resolution 1 (SJ0001).

Thank you,
Kay Schuster and Ellen Sizemore
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