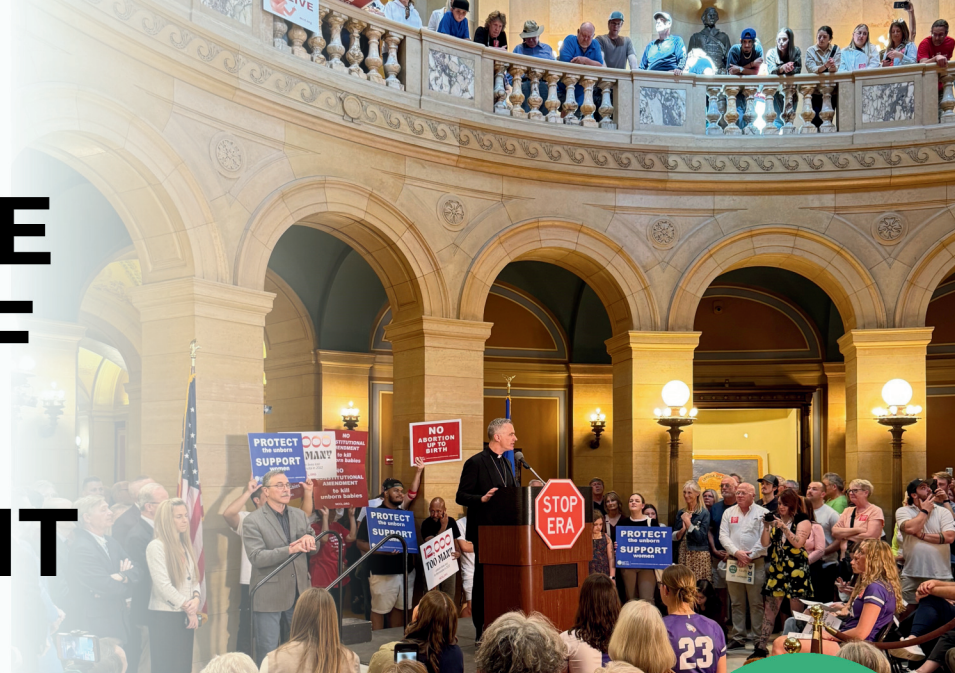




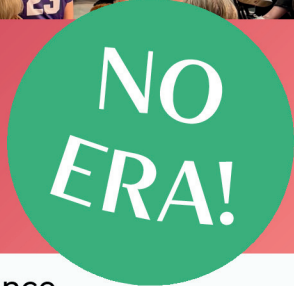
MINNESOTA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

OPPOSE THE EROSION OF RIGHTS AMENDMENT

(S.F. 473 / H.F. 501)



The so-called “Equal Rights Amendment” (ERA) does not foster equality for all. It provides special legal protection for some people while punishing others. Activists who proposed the current language and legislators who support it are enabling discrimination against all Minnesotans—threatening parental rights, harming religious liberty, and attacking free speech and associational freedoms.



Every person is created in the image and likeness of God. And no one should experience discrimination of any kind, because it is not compatible with God’s plan for human flourishing.

The ERA, however, is a *sword* against people of faith.

Anti-religious hate crimes have gone up 30 percent between 2021 and 2022. Acts of vandalism against churches are also on the rise. **Yet, the proposed ERA specifically excludes religion.** An amendment in the 2024 floor debate to include religion failed, confirming that **the intent is to elevate some groups of people and their interests above the concerns of people of faith.** But in seeking to harm traditional religious believers, **proponents leave all Minnesotans more vulnerable to religious discrimination.**

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ERA



Religious Freedom

Excludes protections against religious discrimination for all people and provides a legal tool for judges to override religious freedoms.



Women’s Rights

Invades women’s sports and sex-specific settings, while abolishing sex-separated shelters and prison facilities for women.



Free Speech

Imposes gender ideology in school curricula and could classify the use of “wrong” pronouns as discrimination.



Parental Rights

Threatens custody if parents disagree with their children identifying as LGBTQ+ or attempting to medically change their gender.



Conscience Rights

Erodes conscience rights of medical professionals and mandates more taxpayer-funded “gender-affirming” care.

NO
ERA!

SUPPORT WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



Equal Protection *Already Exists*

The ERA is unnecessary. For decades, laws were developed to recognize the equal dignity and treatment of males and females by prohibiting discrimination based on sex, while also respecting biological differences. **The Federal and State Constitutions, the Federal Civil Rights Act, as well as the Minnesota Human Rights Act, already ban discrimination** in a variety of contexts, including sexual orientation and gender identity. These laws also balance nondiscrimination principles with protections for free speech, free association, and religious liberty. The proposed ERA attempts to supersede the balancing of these interests and forces compliance with a false understanding of the human person that is not compassionate and threatens the authentic dignity of humanity.

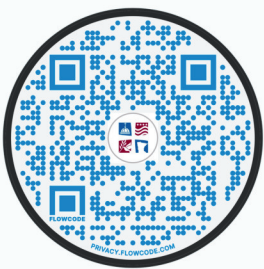
MINNESOTA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROCESS

- The Legislature introduces an act proposing a change in the Constitution.
- The act must be approved by a simple majority vote in both the House and Senate, with identical language in both bodies.
- Once the proposed amendment is passed, it is placed on a general election ballot.
- It does not require the governor's signature or veto like a normal bill.
- Amendments are ratified if approved by a majority of those who vote in the election.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT BILL STATUS

- The ERA came very close to passing through the Legislature during the 2023-2024 session.
- Both the House and Senate passed versions of the ERA, but the language did not match. In order for it to truly pass, their versions must be identical.
- The current bill received a hearing in the House in 2025, and was laid over, meaning it would have to get heard again in order to move forward.
- The bill was heard in the Senate in 2026 and advanced to its next committee.

With your help, we can work to stop the ERA!



To stop this legislation in its tracks, **your legislator needs to hear from you!**

Take action! Contact your legislator by scanning the QR code or visiting our website: MNCatholic.org/notoera



Questions about the ERA? Contact Minnesota Catholic Conference:

📞 651-227-8777

✉ info@mncatholic.org

🌐 www.mncatholic.org