

Leading Obstetrician and Gynecologist Associations Call for Publication of the Equal Rights Amendment!

Shattering Glass Applauds ACOG And Leading OB-GYNs For Calling for the Immediate Publication of the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the US Constitution

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Washington, DC – Yesterday, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists ("ACOG"), along with the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, American Urogynecologic Society, Society of Family Planning, Society of Gynecologic Oncology, Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, and the Society for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, issued <u>a Statement</u> acknowledging the Equal Rights Amendment ("ERA") must be published as the 28th Amendment to the US Constitution to ensure "exceptional and respectful obstetric and gynecologic care is accessible to all."

In the Statement, the organizations, which represent OB-GYNs and fertility specialists across the country, urged:

[the Biden/Harris] administration to do everything in their power to finalize the Equal Rights Amendment so that the promise of equal rights under the law, including the right to access comprehensive reproductive health care such as abortion, may be realized.

Shattering Glass has been leading the efforts to ensure President Biden instructs the US Archivist ("Archivist") to publish the ERA as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution.

Since 2022, when the US Supreme Court issued the *Dobbs* decision, overturning *Roe v. Wade*, Shattering Glass has been working closely with the America Medical Women's Association ("AMWA"), ACOG, fellow members of the <u>Reproductive Health Coalition</u>, and other medical professionals to ensure the publication of the ERA, which is the first critical step to restoring access to reproductive healthcare, regardless of where one lives.

On December 5, 2023, Shattering Glass gathered 84 diverse organizations and medical associations in a <u>letter urging President Biden</u> to publish the ERA as the 28th Amendment to guarantee equality for all, stop the ever-increasing attacks on the rights of, women, girls and LGBTQIA+ people, protect access to reproductive and gender-affirming healthcare, and preserve our democracy and credibility

on the world stage. Signatories include AMWA, Doctors For America, National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, Patient Care Heroes, Physicians for Reproductive Health, and Saratoga Caucus for Reproductive Rights.

As reflected in Shattering Glass's recent follow-up <u>Memorandum to President Biden's Senior</u> <u>Advisors</u>, the situation has become more dire since our <u>December 5th Letter to the President</u>. Women's lives literally are at stake due to an inability to access reproductive healthcare.

According to Eileen A. Murphy, MD, an OB-GYN and member of ACOG and AMWA from Illinois, which has seen an increased demand for reproductive healthcare since the *Dobbs* decision, "Publication of the ratified Equal Rights Amendment is the long-awaited fundamental affirmation of American human rights and human life. 187 million girls, women and LGBTQIA+ Americans navigate the possibility of life, the giving of life, the nurturing of life, and the attendant care of ensuing life every day."

Dr. Murphy added "This sacred duty should be fully supported by publication of the ratified Equal Rights Amendment. Publication of the ratified ERA will support ALL lives with equity, justice, Choice, and comprehensive healthcare services through the American life journey."

"We are incredibly grateful to these leading OB-GYN and fertility organizations for recognizing both the urgency of the situation and the immediately available solution – publication of the ERA as the 28th Amendment," said Nicole Vorrasi Bates, Executive Director of Shattering Glass. "And we look forward to continuing to work with them to get the ERA over the finish line."

"We need the ERA to restore reproductive freedom, as well as stop the further rollback of the rights of women, girls, and the LGBTQIA+ community, which the <u>American Bar Association recently</u> <u>warned</u> are in imminent danger," Vorrasi Bates added. "We simply cannot afford to wait any longer. If we don't act now, it likely will take generations to recover. We need President Biden to instruct the Archivist to publish the ERA as the 28th Amendment immediately."

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<u>Shattering Glass</u> is a national, nonpartisan, 501(c) (3) organization, headquartered in Washington DC, which addresses the systemic economic, societal, and political barriers impeding equality for women and girls. Through advocacy, education, and outreach, Shattering Glass fights for gender equity and gender equality to ensure our daughters, granddaughters, and their children can achieve their dreams, know their worth, and live in a world free of discrimination and bias. Its mission is to create a world where gender equality is the norm, and "Shattering Glass" refers to breakthrough innovations, not women and girls successfully fighting to break down barriers.