

E.R.A. by Ishika Muchhal

This International Women's Day,
Let's all help to pass the ERA.
An amendment that will ban sex-based discrimination
So my rights and your rights aren't up for interpretation.
Written by Alice Paul in 1923
It envisions the America we ought to be.

It passed in the House and the Senate too,
And in 35 states by 1982.
In the last 4 years, 3 more states have passed it,
Now all that's left is to remove the time limit.
The text for which so many fought and died
Is now so close to being ratified.

But why, you may ask, do we need it at all,
When the 14th amendment gives rights to us all?
14's been used, abused, and disputed,
And we need some text that can't be refuted.
For your mother, your sister, your niece, and your daughter,
For the rights that so many before you have fought for.
We've been fighting for years. How long will it take?
How many more glass ceilings must we break?

To make sure the word "women" is in the Constitution,
The senate and house have introduced joint resolutions.
A bill to remove the deadline with bipartisan support,
To enshrine equality from the home to the court.
Here's a cause you can support regardless of your gender,
A promise of equality that your voice can render.

So I urge you please to call and to email
So SJR1 and HJR17 will not fail.
And I'll help you out, there's a link in my bio
With a template of an email that you can borrow!
What could be a better day to help pass the ERA!?
And if you've made it this far, Happy International Women's Day!!

