



For Immediate Release: 8 November 2022

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NEVADANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS COMMITTEE CELEBRATES THE PASSAGE OF QUESTION 1

Nevada passes the most inclusive State ERA amendment in the Country

LAS VEGAS, NV – Nevadans for Equal Rights is thrilled to see the overwhelming show of support from voters across the Silver State in favor of equality finally enshrined in our State Constitution. Supporters, volunteers, and member organizations across all 17 counties have watched as their hard work and dedication have led to extra protections for all Nevadans, particularly those who most directly impacted by discrimination who've been told they must work twice as hard for the same opportunities. On election night, Nevadans have decisively rejected hate and unequivocally declared that our differences should be celebrated and protected under law.

Victories like these do not happen in a vacuum. From the start of our campaign, our efforts centered on communities that are too-often overlooked and engaged the community organizations that support and uplift them.

"In 2017 I had the distinct honor of sponsoring the bill that ratified the national ERA here in Nevada, but I knew we still needed to do more at the state level. We crafted the strongest ERA language in the country and with the help of folks like the Nevada Chapter of the National Organization for Women, Planned Parenthood Votes, Vote Equality, and others, this amendment will now protect every Nevadan from the devastating effects of inequality and inequity," **said State Senator Pat Spearman**. "The passage of the Nevada Equal Rights Amendment gives us a powerful tool in our fight against inequality and discrimination in all of its forms."

"Today, our celebrations over the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, officially enshrining the most inclusive Equal Rights Amendment in the nation into Nevada's State Constitution, center on the diverse communities who fought and gave so much of themselves to ensure equality for all Nevadans," said **Hawah Ahmad, Board Member, Planned Parenthood Advocates Mar Monte**. "The passage of the Nevada ERA adds to the progress we have made toward true equity, led by and centering those most often marginalized by society. This huge win

for abortion rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and immigrant rights is a sign to those across the country that we cannot and will not go back. We will now truly be protecting every Nevadan.

"We are thankful for those who knocked on doors, made calls, sent texts, and voted to ensure that equality won here in Nevada," said **Nnedi Stephens, Campaign Manager for Nevadans for Equal Rights**. "Passing the most inclusive State ERA amendment in the country uplifts Nevada as a beacon of light and a model for fighting back against hatred and bigotry in all of its forms."

"This election cycle Nevada voters made clear that they value equal rights. In a time when opponents of the initiative tried to rely on hate, fear-mongering, and misinformation, we are deeply encouraged to know that the community care we see in the field was reflected in the vote to adopt the country's most-inclusive Equal Rights Amendment into the Nevada constitution," said **Briana Escamilla, Director of Regional Organizing, Planned Parenthood Votes Nevada**. "This ballot initiative passed because of the enthusiasm we saw from Nevadans of all walks of life who value the diversity that makes our state great and know that a more inclusive, equitable future is possible."

"Today is a good day for all Nevadans as we celebrate the passage of Question 1, the Equality for All constitutional amendment," said **André Wade, Director of Nevada's statewide LGBTQ+ civil rights organization, Silver State Equality**. "This has been a long and hard-fought battle, as has every other case in the struggle for civil rights. However, tonight we passed the nation's most comprehensive and far-reaching ERA law, which now includes the addition of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression as protected categories. This historic vote ensures that all Nevadans are treated equally under the law, and that only the vote of the people — the same people who passed this constitutional amendment with more than 50% of the vote— can change that; it is not subject to the whims of the Supreme Court, elected officials, or shifting political winds. Today, we have demonstrated that Nevada is a welcoming community. This is a big step toward true equality and I couldn't be more proud of our Silver State."

"Today, we are celebrating the historic passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, officially enshrining the most inclusive ERA in the nation into Nevada's state constitution. This is a huge win for abortion rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and immigrant rights. At a time when other places in the country are restricting rights for vulnerable groups—Nevadans have, instead, chosen to expand them in a pioneering way. I'm proud to be a Nevadan today," said **Jeri Burton, Executive Director, Nevada Chapter of the National Organization for Women**. "The passage of the Nevada ERA serves as a historic beacon of hope and reminder that Nevadans, and more broadly the American people, value our fundamental human rights. The incredible coalition we've worked hard to build to pass this amendment will continue our work and advocacy to ensure that we continue to protect and uphold reproductive freedom and equity and other vital protections at every level of government."

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Background: Nevadans for Equal Rights is a Committee registered with the Nevada Secretary of State's Office tasked with supporting Question 1 during the 2022 General Election cycle. Question 1 is a proposed Constitutional Amendment, previously passed on a bipartisan basis in the 2019 and 2021 Nevada Legislative Sessions, that would include an Equal Rights Protection clause to the Nevada State Constitution prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, ancestry, or national origin. In August, the Committee hired Northern Nevada Community Organizer and former Democratic Candidate Nnedi Stephens as the Campaign Manager to lead the Committee's electoral efforts to coalesce supportive statewide coalition partners to pass Question 1.

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