Equal Rights Amendment

There are various groups around the state that are actively working on passage of the E.R.A. Many of our members may want to work on this effort. Here is some information provided by Springfield Missouri Feminists:

**UPDATE: House Concurrent Resolution--HCR 12**
Representative Judy Morgan, District 24, Introduced HCR12 on January 10, 2019

On January 14, 2019 HCR 12 had a Second Reading, and awaits a Committee Assignment. We want all of our Representatives to Co-sponsor and Support HCR12, which "Establishes Missouri's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution," on January 10, 2019.

See Representative Morgan, here: https://house.mo.gov/MemberDetails.aspx?district=024&year=2019&code=R
See House Membership Roster, here: https://house.mo.gov/MemberRoster.aspx

HCR 12 Call to Action--See SMF Event, Ask a Representative!: https://www.facebook.com/events/323059464968078/

The Representatives of all 162 seats were contacted by the Missouri ERA effort, asking them to Co-sponsor HCR12. Their co-sponsorship means that they are willing to leave a public record in Jefferson City, that they intend to support the Equal Rights Amendment as it makes its way through the 2019 Legislative process.

It is critical to the success of our ERA campaign, that constituents also contact their Representatives. Please call, email, tweet, or use any other form of social media in contacting your Representative and let them know you would like them to Co-sponsor HCR12!

Then, email Representative Judy Morgan and let her know which Representative you asked to Co-sponsor HCR12, to allow her to follow-up: Judy.Morgan@house.mo.gov

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**UPDATE: Senate Concurrent Resolution--SCR 7**
Senator Jill Schupp, District 24, Introduced SCR 7 on January 16, 2019

On January 17, 2019 it was Referred to the Rules Committee. We want the Rules Committee to Hold a Hearing on SCR7, which "Ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution."

See SCR7, here: https://www senate mo.gov/19info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=1538876
SCR 7 Call to Action--See SMF Event, Ask a Senator!
https://www.facebook.com/events/313214489298104/

SCR7 has been introduced in the Senate and it will MOVE FAST! Remember, if you really want the ERA to be ratified in Missouri, you have to ask your legislators to cosponsor it as the legislation is introduced. No physical Event, the Event date is our Action Deadline which will be extended as actions require.

First, we need constituents to call, email, tweet, or use any other form of social media in contacting their own Senator and ask them to Cosponsor and Support SCR7. Then, send an email to Senator Jill Schupp to allow her to follow up with them: Jill.Schupp@senate.mo.gov

Second, we need constituents to call, email, tweet, or use any other form of social media in contacting the members of the Rules committee asking them to hold a hearing. Again, send an email to Senator Jill Schupp to allow her to follow up with them: Jill.Schupp@senate.mo.gov

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MISSOURI LEGISLATURE - SECOND FULL WEEK

Committees have been set and many of them have had “introductory” meetings to begin the process although not many have actually heard bills. The budget-related committees have been meeting and hearing presentations from the different administrative areas and some of those continue the last week of January. For example, Senate Appropriations Committee meets this week to hear from the Department of Revenue, State Tax Commission, and the Department of Transportation and the House Subcommittee on Appropriations-Education will hear from Public Higher Education, Community College Association, and State Tech.

EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Education-related committees begin their normal schedule with the House Workforce Development committee and the House Higher Education committee meeting regularly on Mondays. The House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and the Senate Education Committee will meet regularly on Tuesdays. The Senate Government Reform Committee will also meet on Tuesdays, and some education-related bills have already been referred to that committee.

BUDGET COMMITTEES

The Senate Appropriations Committee and the House Subcommittee on Appropriations - Education both held meetings on January 23 to hear overview presentations from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Department of Higher Education (DHE). The committees also heard public testimony from interested individuals and agencies. Education-related witnesses speaking before the committees included representatives for sheltered workshops, independent living centers, foster care
agencies, early childhood education, Parents as Teachers, the Access Missouri scholarship program and the Missouri Scholars Academy.

The House Budget Committee heard testimony and asked questions of officials for the Department of Revenue regarding state revenue and state income tax collections. The Department indicates that recent tax changes coupled with existing calculation errors in state income tax withholding have reduced withholding of state income tax revenues and that this reduction is a significant cause of the lower than expected year-to-date state general revenue receipts. Those receipts are currently about 10% below last year's revenues, while the consensus revenue estimate for current year revenues, upon which the current year budget is based, is for a 1.7% increase in state general revenues.

**ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT**

The House General Laws Committee began the hearing on HB 445 (Dogan) on January 23. The original bill would ban local official lobbyist gifts to elected and appointed local officials, including lobbyist gifts to school board members and superintendents. This policy helps make local governments, including school districts, more open and accountable to the public interest, no doubt an extension of some of the issues supported by voters in November (CLEAN).

Rep. Dogan proposed two committee amendments that significantly expand the bill to incorporate similar lobbyist gift bans, revolving door policies, campaign contribution limits and open records law changes for local officials. However, the committee concluded the hearing on January 24 and voted the bill without including the amendments.