Bonnie Hackett S Berwick LD 1412

There already exists equal rights - Both women and men already have a full claim to equal rights under the 5th and 14th Amendments.

There already exists laws that prohibit sex discrimination - There are numerous laws in virtually all areas of American life (e.g. employment, education, credit eligibility, housing, public accommodations, etc.) that prohibit sex discrimination.

This bill has everything to do with abortion! - The ERA could be interpreted as enshrining in our Constitution a right to taxpayer-funded abortions because under the ERA there would be no difference between abortions and medically necessary procedures sought by men, so the state must pay for abortions. There are multiple states that have passed this bill and then been court ordered to fund abortions.

This bill would empower courts to define "sex" - The courts would be empowered to define "sex" and "equality of rights," which could grant special legal rights to people on the basis of "sexual orientation" and "gender identity," which would threaten religious liberty and conscience protections.

The bill would jeopardize privacy and safety - Traditional male and female bathrooms, locker rooms, hospital rooms, nursing homes, etc. would be nullified because under the ERA women and men must be treated as indistinguishable. This would place our young children at risk and seriously jeopardize privacy.

It would supersede Title IX – The ERA would permit males and females to compete for inclusion on the same sports teams, as evidenced by Pennsylvania's Supreme Court which invalidated sex segregated sports policies, including contact sports, citing the state's ERA. Integrated prison system - Male and female prisons will become integrated according to Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and result in harsher discipline for females since they would be required to be treated in the same way as men. Auto and life insurance for women would increase - Regardless of the statistical evidence showing that women live longer than men or women have better driving records, women would likely have to pay the same rates as men.