



THE PROBLEM

Our state constitution does not protect all of us.

Our New York State Constitution is wholly inadequate when it comes to ensuring equality. We need a constitution with broad protections for every New Yorker.

The current New York State Constitution fails to prohibit discrimination against groups who have been historically targeted, including those with disabilities, LGBTQI+ individuals, immigrants, women, and pregnant people.

We must pass an equal rights amendment worthy of the 21st century that protects us all.

THE SOLUTION

Pass a constitutional Equal Rights Amendment.

The good news is we are already on the path to expanding equal protection for all New Yorkers. In 2022, the legislature passed a state constitutional amendment that creates new protections in our constitution against discrimination based on a person's ethnicity, national origin, disability, age, and sex — including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive health care and autonomy.

Because our constitution requires all constitutional amendments to pass the legislature twice before giving the public the opportunity to vote on the measure, we must pass the amendment again in 2023 so that it can appear on the 2024 ballot.



Adding an Equal Rights Amendment to our state constitution would:

- broadly prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, disability, age, or sex including pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, reproductive health care and autonomy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.
- explicitly include language to clarify that discrimination based on a person's pregnancy or pregnancy outcome is sex discrimination – this is crucial given the national trend of criminalizing people for various pregnancy outcomes, as well as the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade.
- ensure comprehensive and inclusive equal protections that will guard against attacks on our rights from the federal government or federal judges, including threats to the legal equality of LGBTQI+ people.

The New York State Constitution is a foundational document that defines our fundamental rights. We must fight to ensure it reflects and protects all of us – and that means passing the Equal Rights Amendment in 2023, so that voters can adopt it in 2024.

Urge lawmakers to pass a broad and inclusive Equal Rights Amendment again this legislative session.

