

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Naomi Wong Hemme
Email: nwonghemme@justicerevival.org**

**FAITH LEADERS COMMEND SENATE AND HOUSE ACTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

Washington, DC (January 22, 2021) -- In response to the Joint Resolution introduced by the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to facilitate ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), Justice Revival Founder and Executive Director Allyson McKinney Timm and Sojourners Immigration and Women and Girls Campaign Coordinator Paola Fuentes Gleghorn, issued the following joint statement:

“As Christian faith leaders, we commend Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), as well as Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA) and Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY) for their sustained, bipartisan leadership in this effort. The Joint Resolution would remove the time limit for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The adoption of the ERA is a critical step towards realizing the promise of equal rights for all—a foundational principle of this nation—and we urge the Senate and the House to pass their respective Joint Resolution swiftly.

“We also call upon the Biden-Harris Administration, as part of its first 100 days agenda, to direct the U.S. Archivist to publish and certify the ERA as the 28th Constitutional Amendment, now that the necessary 38 states have ratified it.

First adopted by Congress in 1972, the ERA would ensure that individuals’ rights cannot be ‘denied or abridged’ by the government on the basis of sex. The U.S. is one of only 18 countries worldwide that lacks an explicit constitutional provision to safeguard women’s rights or prohibit gender discrimination.

“As Christians, we value the inherent dignity and worth of all people as children of God created in the divine image, irrespective of gender. We firmly believe that the ERA reflects that value. We pledge—as our faith obligates us to do—to continue to speak up and act to correct the many forms of injustice women and other minorities continue to face in this country. Our support for the ERA follows directly from our guiding commitment to universal human rights.”

About Justice Revival

Justice Revival is a diverse, inclusive community of Christian faith, dedicated to serving as a voice for human rights in the United States. It inspires church communities with knowledge and understanding of human rights, and unites with them to promote a world free from injustice.

About Sojourners

Sojourners is the largest network of progressive Christians in the United States, focused on the biblical call to social justice. Sojourners seeks to inspire hope and build a movement to transform individuals, communities, the church, and the world. Our award-

winning Sojourners magazine and Sojourners online publication provide the most up-to-date news and thought-provoking commentary from social justice leaders.

Justice Revival and Sojourners are member organizations within the ERA Coalition.

###