

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Minnesota Voters: Now Is the Time to Pass State's First
Constitutional Amendment For Equality**
MN C.A.F.E. Coalition Kicks Off Eight-City Tour

Now is the time to pass Minnesota's first C.A.F.E.: a Constitutional Amendment For Equality and secure the basic principle of gender equality into the state's governing document. The MN C.A.F.E. Coalition launches its first statewide tour on Wednesday, January 27 to make 2010 the year in which the Minnesota Legislature passes its first state equal rights amendment.

The *2010 Campaign for Constitutional Equality's* eight -city *Northern Minnesota Equality Tour* kicks off at the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel from 4-6 p.m., prior to the 7 p.m. Multi-Party Gubernatorial Debate. Any Minnesotan in favor of equal rights, regardless of gender, is invited to celebrate the launch of the tour and learn more about the additional efforts to come as the 2010 Minnesotan Legislative nears.

From January 28 to 31, members of the statewide Coalition will travel to the shipyards of Duluth, through the heart of the Iron Range and across the resort country of north central Minnesota to share the message of economic, social and political equality of men and women with voters.

The goal of the Coalition is to pass an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution that states, "Equality under the law shall not be abridged or denied on account of sex." Successful passage will require a majority vote out of the Minnesota Legislature and a YES vote from every corner of Minnesota, from Marshall to Minneapolis, from Roseau to Richfield, from Winona to Worthington.

Stops on the *Northern Minnesota Women's Equality Tour* include:

January 28, 12-1 p.m; Duluth Building for Women, 32 East 1st Street, Duluth
January 28, 5-7pm; Rustic Rock Chop House, 301 Hat Trick Avenue, Eveleth
January 29, 11:30-1:00; Brewed Awakenings, 24 NE 4th Street, Grand Rapids
January 29, 4-6 pm; Bella Caffè, 118 3rd St. W., Park Rapids
January 30, 10 am-12 pm; Community House, Bemidji
January 30, 4-5 pm; Community & Cultural Center, 826 Summit Ave., Detroit Lakes
January 31, 12-2 pm; Café 116, 116 South Union Avenue, Fergus Falls

A *Southern Minnesota Equality Tour* and a *Suburban Equality Tour* will continue through the months of February and March.

The MN C.A.F.E. Coalition is comprised of individuals and organizations committed to women and men's equality. Member organizations include Minnesota NOW, the ACLU of MN, the Minnesota League of Women Voters, Advocates for Human Rights, Domestic Abuse Project, Minnesota Women's Political Caucus, The White House Project, Minnesota Women's Press, and New Moon Girl Media.

For more information on the Minnesota C.A.F.E., the Coalition and Tour details, visit www.mnCAFEEcoalition.org. The Web site offers printable materials, important links, petitions, and membership and donation information.

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