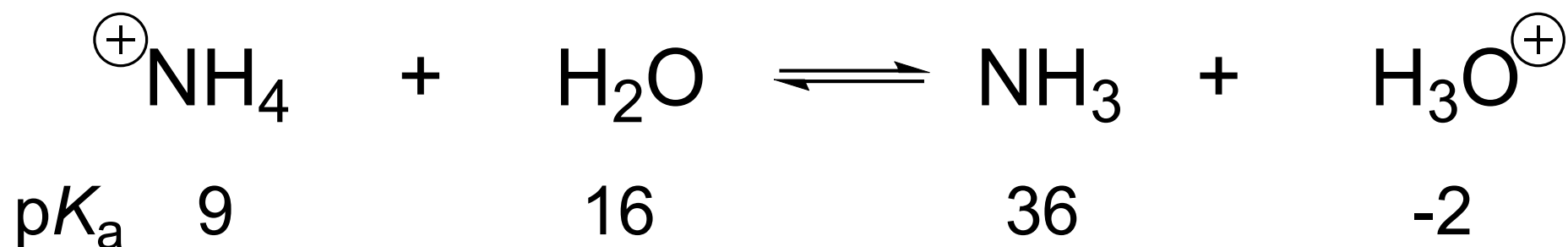


Given the  $pK_a$  values shown, in which direction does the equilibrium lie? Explain briefly. (next, try it without  $pK_a$ !)



- A) Forward, because the combined  $pK_a$  25 is lower than 34.
- B) Reverse, because the combined  $pK_a$  25 is lower than 34.
- C) Forward, because -2 is lower than 9.
- D) Reverse, because -2 is lower than 9.
- E) Neither, because the charges are balanced.