

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1046

Supporting the designation of August 2020 as National Women's Suffrage Month.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2020

Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, and Ms. DEAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of August 2020 as National Women's Suffrage Month.

Whereas the 19th Amendment extended the franchise to women across the United States;

Whereas August 18, 2020, marks the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment by three-fourths of the States;

Whereas August 26, 2020, marks the centennial of the 19th Amendment becoming part of the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment is a pivotal chapter in the history of American democracy;

Whereas the ratification of the 19th Amendment marks the single largest expansion of voting rights in United States history;

Whereas the ratification of the 19th Amendment did not, in practice, guarantee voting rights to all American women, as African-American women, Native American women, Asian American women, Hispanic American women, and other women of color in America continued to face legal and social barriers to voting throughout the twentieth century;

Whereas the suffragists persevered in their quest for women's equality through generations of hardships, including the Civil War, Reconstruction, World War I, and the Spanish Flu pandemic; and

Whereas the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission was created to encourage, plan, develop, and execute programs, projects, and activities to commemorate the centennial of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) supports the designation of National Women's Suffrage Month;
- 3
- 4 (2) celebrates the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment to the
- 5 Constitution;
- 6
- 7 (3) honors the fearless voting rights activists
- 8 who fought for generations to secure women's access
- 9 to the ballot;

1 (4) reaffirms that all citizens have the right to
2 full participation in American democracy;

3 (5) recommits to uplifting an inclusive, diverse,
4 and complete history of women’s fight for the vote;

5 (6) recommits to persevering through these un-
6 expected times to celebrate the suffragists, educate
7 new generations about this critical chapter in the
8 history of American democracy, and create a legacy
9 that will inspire for the next 100 years;

10 (7) recommends that Members of Congress
11 demonstrate their support for the suffrage centen-
12 nial through local and national commemorative ef-
13 forts, such as the Women’s Suffrage Centennial
14 Commission’s Forward Into Light Campaign; and

15 (8) encourages the people of the United States
16 to observe National Women’s Suffrage Month and
17 commemorate this milestone of American democracy
18 by ensuring that the untold stories of women’s dec-
19 ades-long battle for the ballot are recognized and
20 celebrated across the United States.

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