



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3235/1
CMH:amn

2019 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 37

May 14, 2019 - Introduced by Senators BERNIER, JOHNSON, BEWLEY, DARLING, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SHILLING, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, COWLES, CRAIG, ERPENBACH, FEYEN, FITZGERALD, HANSEN, JACQUE, KAPENGA, KOOYENGA, LARSON, LEMAHIEU, MARKLEIN, MILLER, NASS, OLSEN, PETROWSKI, RISSER, ROTH, SMITH, STROEBEL, TESTIN, TIFFANY, WANGGAARD and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives BALLWEG, BILLINGS, BRANDTJEN, CABRERA, DITTRICH, DUCHOW, EMERSON, FELZKOWSKI, HESSELBEIN, KERKMAN, KOLSTE, LOUDENBECK, MAGNAFICI, B. MEYERS, L. MYERS, NEUBAUER, POPE, RODRIGUEZ, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, STUBBS, STUCK, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VANDERMEER, VINING, ZAMARRIPA, ALLEN, ANDERSON, AUGUST, BORN, BOWEN, BROOKS, BROSTOFF, CONSIDINE, CROWLEY, DOYLE, EDMING, FIELDS, GOYKE, GRUSZYNSKI, GUNDRUM, HAYWOOD, HEBL, HINTZ, HORLACHER, HUTTON, JAGLER, JAMES, KATSKA, KITCHENS, KNODL, KRUG, KUGLITSCH, KULP, KURTZ, MACCO, MILROY, MURPHY, MURSAU, NEYLON, NOVAK, NYGREN, OHNSTAD, OLDENBURG, OTT, PETERSEN, PETRYK, PLUMER, PRONSHINSKE, QUINN, RAMTHUN, RIEMER, ROHRKASTE, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, SKOWRONSKI, SNYDER, SPIROS, SPREITZER, STAFSHOLT, STEFFEN, STEINEKE, SUMMERFIELD, SWEARINGEN, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TITTL, TRANEL, TUSLER, VORPAGEL, VOS, VRUWINK, WICHGERS, WITTKE and ZIMMERMAN. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** celebrating June 10, 2019, as the 100th Anniversary of ratifying the
2 19th Amendment.

3 Whereas, June 10, 2019, marks the 100th anniversary of Wisconsin leading the
4 nation as the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment, allowing women the right to
5 vote; and

6 Whereas, Wisconsin women fought for the right to vote for more than a century
7 before it was granted and persevered in the face of resistance; and

8 Whereas, the national constitutional amendment for women's suffrage passed
9 overwhelmingly in the Wisconsin Assembly 54 to 2 and in the Wisconsin Senate 25
10 to 1; and

11 Whereas, to be the first state, Wisconsin raced with Illinois and Michigan,
12 appointing former State Senator David James as special messenger to transfer the

1 certification to Washington, D.C., with James hand-delivering the certification
2 moments before the Illinois messenger arrived; and

3 Whereas, Wisconsin became the first state to file the certification, other states
4 soon followed; and

5 Whereas, the necessary 36 states soon ratified the 19th Amendment; half of the
6 U.S. population was enfranchised on August 26, 1920; and

7 Whereas, the fight for women's suffrage, from the first women's rights
8 convention to enfranchisement, lasted 72 years, with women from all walks of life,
9 political views, and demographic backgrounds asking for the right to voice their
10 opinions at the polls; and

11 Whereas, Wisconsin women by the thousands advocated for the right to vote on
12 the streets, in newspapers, and in the state and federal capitols; and

13 Whereas, Wisconsin-born Carrie Chapman Catt led the national movement,
14 meeting with President Woodrow Wilson to secure his support for suffrage in light
15 of women's contributions during World War I; and

16 Whereas, Wisconsin women, like former First Lady Belle Case LaFollette and
17 Reverend Olympia Brown, garnered national attention for their suffrage efforts; and

18 Whereas, Ada James took women's right to vote to the streets and re-energized
19 suffrage efforts in 1912; and

20 Whereas, Theodora Winton Youmans helped heal the state's suffragists after
21 the failure of the 1912 referendum and continued the movement to educate
22 Wisconsin residents on the benefits of women voters; and

23 Whereas, women had been organized under the statewide structure of the
24 Wisconsin Woman's Suffrage Association since 1869; and

