

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Passage and Ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

WHEREAS, Congress passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States on August 18, 1920 to declare, “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex”; and

WHEREAS, this amendment, which granted women the right to vote, was the culmination of a decades-long struggle by women’s rights advocates across the United States and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, women faced many obstacles women in their struggle for the vote, including the prevailing opinion that women belonged in the domestic sphere and not the public sphere; and

WHEREAS, the women’s suffrage movement has its origins in New York State at the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848, the first women’s rights convention ever held in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the following decades, women marched, protested, lobbied, and even went to jail in the fight for equal treatment under the law; and

WHEREAS, New York women were on the front lines in the fight for suffrage, including Susan B. Anthony, Alva Vanderbilt Belmont, and Carrie Chapman Catt; and

WHEREAS, the ratification of the 19th Amendment represented a major victory and a turning point in the women’s rights movement, ensuring women could more fully participate in our democracy and fundamentally changing the role of women in the civic life of our nation; and

WHEREAS, this amendment changed the face of the American electorate forever and opened the door to women serving in local government; and

WHEREAS, August 26, 2020 marks the centennial of the 19th Amendment becoming a part of the United States Constitution, and this historical milestone is to be lauded and celebrated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that [INSERT COUNTY NAME] celebrates the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that [INSERT COUNTY NAME] honors the role of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in further promoting the core values of our democracy as promised by the Constitution of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that [INSERT COUNTY NAME] reaffirms the desire of counties to continue strengthening democratic participation and to inspire future generations to cherish and preserve this historic precedent.