

RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE AND RATIFICATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, Illinois had long been at the forefront of the movement to provide women the right to vote, with the first women's suffrage association established in Earlville, LaSalle County in 1855; and

WHEREAS, in 1869, just seven years after the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, Illinois established the first statewide suffrage organization, the Illinois Woman Suffrage Association, which became the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association in 1891; and

WHEREAS, in 1891, Illinois enacted a law allowing women the right to vote for elective school offices and in 1913 enacted the Presidential Suffrage Bill, giving Illinois women the right to vote in federal and municipal elections not otherwise restricted to men under the Illinois Constitution; and

WHEREAS, with the enactment of that law, Illinois became the first state east of the Mississippi River to give women the right to vote for President of the United States, and is credited with being a major positive influence in advancing the women's suffrage movement in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 1919, the proposed 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification, with Illinois the first to ratify on June 10, 1919; and

WHEREAS, Illinois led the way for the necessary three-fourths of the states to ratify the 19th Amendment, which became part of the Constitution on August 26, 1920.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park that the month of June to be a month to celebrate women's right to vote and the important role Illinois played in achieving that right in the United States.

APPROVED this 17th day of June, 2019.

ATTEST:

Anan Abu-Taleb, Village President

Vicki Scaman, Village Clerk