



## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the bold, courageous and powerful women who fought for the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920, deserve special celebrations, especially on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its ratification in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy and the fundamental right upon which our civil liberties rest; and

WHEREAS, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment did not guarantee suffrage for all women, including Native Americans who did not gain their right to vote until 1924. For Asian Pacific Islander Americans, it was 1952. African-American and Latin Americans suffered voter suppression until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and 1975; and

WHEREAS, the fact that today women are active in local, state and national government and are running for office in unprecedented numbers reminds us that we all follow in the footsteps of these resolute American suffragists: and

WHEREAS, the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the United States Constitution has played an important role in advancing the rights of all women.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved that the residents and civic institutions celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the constitution of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Mayor Teri Johnston do hereby proclaim Wednesday, August 26, 2020 as

### **Women's Equality Day**

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States". I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

---

Teri Johnston MAYOR