

Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Resolution

Resolution No.: 20-269

Resolution commemorating August 26, 2020 as the National Centennial of Ratification of the 19th Amendment in Monterey County; Designating November 1, 2020, the 100th Anniversary of California's Ratification of the 19th Amendment, as the beginning of "The Year of Monterey County Women" in Monterey County; and Reaffirming the County of Monterey's commitment to empowering and uplifting the voices of women across our community.....)

WHEREAS, August 26, 2020 will mark the nationwide centennial of the 19th Amendment officially becoming part of the United States Constitution after the required number of states had ratified; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 1919, California ratified the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting national suffrage to women; and

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

WHEREAS, the history of the suffrage movement has been told mainly as the story of a few famous white women, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, but numerous women of color also fought for the vote as part of a broader struggle for equality, including African-American women such as the writer and orator Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, the community organizer Juno Frankie Pierce and the journalists Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, Elizabeth Piper Ensley and Ida B. Wells-Barnett, who championed both suffrage and civil rights; Native American women such as Susette La Flesche Tibbles and Zitkala-Sa; queer women like the poet Angelina Weld Grimké and the educator Mary Burrill; Latina women like Jovita Idár, who protected her family's newspaper and the rights of Mexican-Americans; and Asian-American women like Mabel Ping-Hua Lee, who led thousands of marchers in a 1912 suffrage parade in New York; and

WHEREAS, the 19th Amendment is a cornerstone of gender equality in our country and it took male allies to support women in their endeavor to vote, for it was sons, husbands, and fathers who ultimately heard the calls of women and took this historic vote on November 1, 1919; and

WHEREAS, daughters, granddaughters, and great-granddaughters of the women who fought so hard to vote have been making their voices heard at the polls for nearly 100 years; and

WHEREAS, women are running for office in unprecedented numbers, many current politicians, both male and female, remember that they follow in the footsteps of these great suffragists; and

WHEREAS, states and communities across the nation are celebrating the 19th Amendment and the date of their state's ratification;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, hereby

- 1. Commemorates August 26, 2020 as the National Centennial of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment in Monterey County;
2. Designates November 1, 2020, the 100th Anniversary of California's Ratification of the 19th Amendment, as the beginning of "The Year of Monterey County Women" in Monterey County; and
3. Reaffirms the County of Monterey's commitment to empowering and uplifting the voices of women across our community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 18th day of August 2020.



Supervisor Chris Lopez, Chair
Supervisor Jane Parker, Vice Chair
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo
Supervisor John M. Phillips
Supervisor Mary L. Adams