



CITY OF PETALUMA PROCLAMATION

TO CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL OF THE RATIFICATION OF
THE 19TH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

&
TO HONOR OUR NATION'S CORE DEMOCRATIC VALUE OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE
THROUGH PROMOTING UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE
AND ENCOURAGING VOTER REGISTRATION

Whereas, the year 2020 marks the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution which ensures the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex; and



Whereas, California on November 1, 1919, became the 18th state to ratify that Federal Amendment; and

Whereas, the State of California, in a prescient act of legislation, on October 10, 1911, ratified Proposition 4, Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 8 extending the right to vote to most California women; and

Whereas, California suffragists worked diligently to secure that State Amendment and among them were three exceptionally courageous and persistent Petalumans: Abigail Goodwin Haskell, Ellen Hulett Button, and Anna Morrison Reed; and

Whereas, Petaluma hosted presentations by such prominent national suffragists as Laura de Force Gordon, Carrie Chapman Catt, Frances E. Willard, and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw; and

Whereas, in 1878, two hundred and twelve Petaluma residents signed a "Woman Suffrage Petition" addressed to the Congressmen of the State of California requesting an amendment to the State Constitution establishing the equal political rights of all American citizens, irrespective of sex; and

Whereas, in 1870, three hundred ninety-one Petaluma residents signed a "Petition for Woman's Suffrage" addressed to the Congressmen of the State of California requesting immediate action for an amendment that would secure to the women of California the right of suffrage; and

Whereas, neither the 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution nor the 8th Amendment of the State of California Constitution guarantees suffrage to all women or all citizens of the United States, and whereas voter suppression continues to plague our nation,

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved that I, Teresa Barrett, Mayor of Petaluma, along with the members of the City Council, do hereby recommend that all Petaluma citizens and civic institutions celebrate the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment, honor the contributions of past suffragists both national and local, and continue the work left undone by our predecessors in honoring the core value of the right to vote within our democracy by promoting universal suffrage and voter registration.

Teresa Barrett, Mayor
January 6, 2020

Claire Cooper, City Clerk
January 6, 2020