



100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT & WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

“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. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

THE LONG ROAD TO ENFRANCHISEMENT

The 19th Amendment enfranchised millions of women across the United States following a campaign that began even as our nation was formed.

★ **JULY 19-20, 1848**
The first women's rights convention takes place in Seneca Falls, New York, on July 19-20, 1848, the launching point for the U.S. women's suffrage movement. Includes the Declaration of Sentiments.

★ **FEB. 3, 1870**
15th Amendment is ratified, giving the right to vote regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

★ **JANUARY 1878**
A women's suffrage amendment is introduced in the Senate. It fails in 1887.

★ **1914**
Another women's suffrage amendment is introduced. It also fails.

★ **1918**
19th Amendment passes the House and then fails in the Senate by 2 votes.

★ **FEB. 10, 1919**
19th Amendment fails in the Senate by 1 vote.

★ **MAY 21, 1919**
19th Amendment passes in the House.

★ **JUNE 4, 1919**
19th Amendment passes in the Senate.

★ **JUNE 10, 1919**
Wisconsin and Michigan are the first states to ratify the 19th Amendment.

★ **AUG. 18, 1920**
Tennessee is the 36th state to ratify 19th Amendment, passing the three-fourths threshold requirement for the amendment to become law.

★ **AUG. 26, 1920**
19th Amendment is adopted as part of U.S. Constitution.

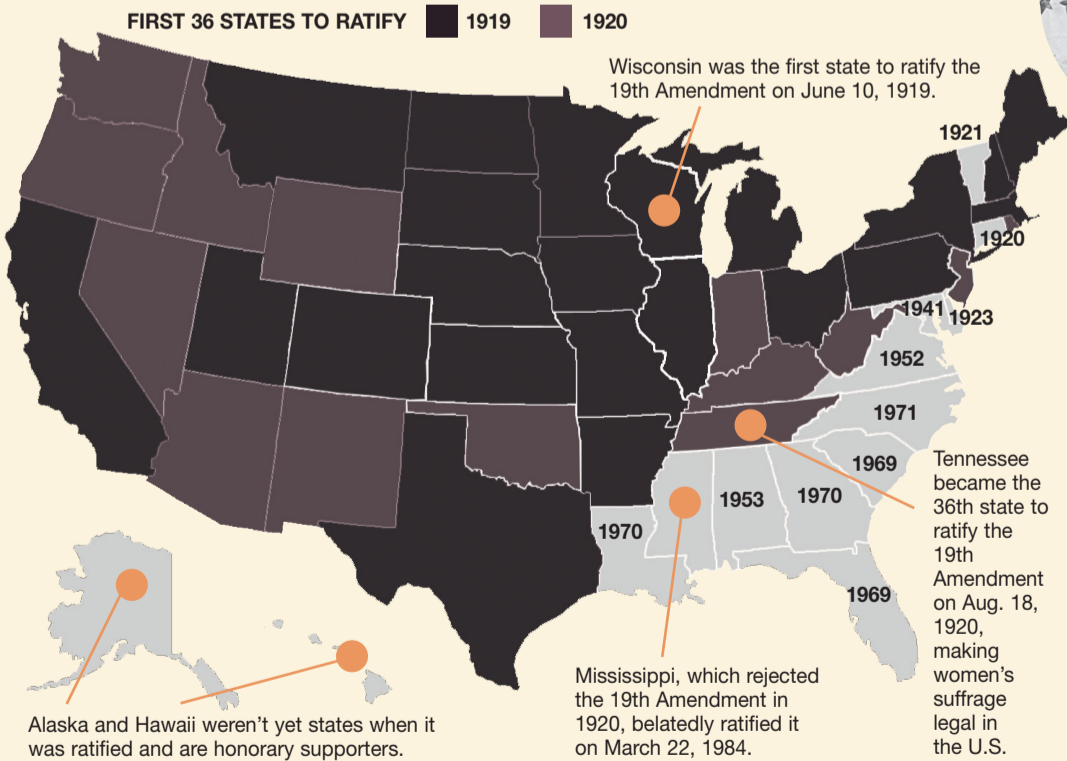
★ **A MOVEMENT DIVIDED**
The National Woman Suffrage Association pursued a federal amendment, while the American Woman Suffrage Association opted for a state-by-state plan. The groups merged in 1890, forming the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

★ **DUAL PURPOSE**
Black women reformers founded the National Association of Colored Women in 1896.



★ **ON THE MARCH**
In 1913, Alice Paul organized NAWSA's first women's suffrage parade in Washington, D.C. The police failed to provide the suffragists with adequate protection, and spectators attacked the marchers.

★ **RATIFICATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT**
To make women's suffrage legal across the nation, 36 states had to ratify the 19th Amendment:



★ **EXERCISING THE RIGHT** Some 10 million women voted in 1920, a turnout rate of 36%.



★ **SEEKING A VOICE ON ISSUES**
Women wanted voting rights to reform child labor laws, promote public health and prohibit alcohol and prostitution.

★ **PROTESTS**
In 1917, the National Woman's Party organized protests outside the White House to pressure President Woodrow Wilson to support women's suffrage. For several months, suffragists protested in silence six days a week.

★ **STATE LEVEL**
Some of the earliest state associations to support the national movement were in Kansas (1867), Iowa (1870) and Washington (1871).

★ **MEN'S ROLE**
Suffrage depended on male supporters. Only men could vote in state referenda to extend the vote to women.

9 SUFFRAGISTS TO KNOW

Women across the nation fought to secure women the right to vote. Here are suffragists who made it possible:

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON
Organized the first women's rights convention in 1848 with Lucretia Mott. Co-authored the Declaration of Sentiments issued by the convention.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT
Co-founder of the League of Women Voters; created the Winning Plan to urge states to grant women suffrage.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY
Icon of women's suffrage who traveled the country to give speeches, circulate petitions and organize local women's rights organizations. As a final tribute to Anthony, who died in 1906, the 19th Amendment was named the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.

LUCY STONE
A bona fide pioneer who toiled tirelessly for the abolitionist and woman's rights movements. Principal organizer of the 1850 Worcester First National Women's Rights Convention.

DR. ALICE PAUL
One of the main leaders of the campaign for the 19th Amendment. Organized the Woman Suffrage Procession and founded the National Woman's Party and World's Woman's Party.

IDA B. WELLS
A journalist, activist and Pulitzer Prize winner in 1920, Wells founded the Alpha Suffrage Club in Chicago, which played a crucial role in the victory of women's suffrage in Illinois.

JEANNETTE RANKIN
At 36, first federally elected woman in the United States. Elected in 1916 to the U.S. House of Representatives as one of two representatives for Montana.

NINA OTERO-WARREN
Active in New Mexico politics and worked toward women's suffrage, insisting that suffrage literature be published in both English and Spanish, in order to reach the widest audience.

DR. MABEL PING-HUA LEE
Her May 1914 essay, "The Meaning of Woman Suffrage," argued that suffrage for women was necessary to a successful democracy. Fought for suffrage even though as a Chinese immigrant she could not vote.

SYMBOLS OF A MOVEMENT

PURPLE: Loyalty
WHITE: Purity and femininity
YELLOW/GOLD: Life and light



JAIL CELL DOOR: Silver pins shaped like a jail cell door with a heart-shaped padlock were given by the National Woman's Party to each of the women "jailed for freedom."



SUNFLOWERS & YELLOW ROSES: After Kansas suffragists adopted the sunflower as a symbol of their campaign, the flowers and color spread nationwide.